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20P

THE TIMES

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MONDAY FEBRUARY 6 1995

Rallying cry to pro-Europeans

Heseltine and Aitken reopen Tory civil war

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE standard of the Conservative pro-Europeans was raised by Michael Heseltine yesterday with a warning against Britain turning its back on a single currency and a pledge not to pander to the Euro-sceptic public mood.

In a warning shot for John Major against giving any more ground to the sceptics, the President of the Board of Trade said the Government must not wrap itself in a national flag in the preparations for next year's conference on the future of Europe or allow any doubts to arise over its commitment to the EU. He said that foreign investment could be at risk.

"In the end, one is in politics because you have to argue for them if they are important enough," he said. He suggested that some British firms would opt to trade in a single currency even if the country decided to stay out.

Mr Heseltine's intervention came on the day that Jonathan Aitken publicly set his face against a single currency. Mr Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, said: "I don't want a single currency, period, for as far as I can foresee, I would hesitate for an eternity before I came out and said I would vote for a single currency."

The sharp divergence between two senior figures meant that Mr Major's new strategy for unity had suffered a resounding setback. Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, accused the Government of "going round in circles" and demanded a general election before the European summit.

In a speech to the Conservative Way Forward group on Friday, whose tone has been welcomed by many of the Euro-sceptics, Mr Major ruled out a single currency in 1997 and announced new conditions before Britain could even contemplate entry, but left open the door to joining one at a later stage. The formula was a compromise



Heseltine: warning shot for the Prime Minister

designed to keep the warring factions under control and was endorsed on Saturday by Douglas Hurd. Yesterday's developments, however, suggested that Mr Major has a huge task on his hands.

It was Mr Heseltine's call to arms that delighted the pro-Europeans. It came as the Conservative Group for Europe, an official organisation within the party, went on the offensive against the Euro-sceptics. In a letter to members, believed to run into hundreds, the group said that the Government's efforts to appease the Euro-rebels were risking party unity.

Mr Heseltine is understood to have been moved to speak out after his visit to Japan last week where some observers apparently doubted Britain's commitment to Europe. First, in an article in *The Sunday Times*, he hinted that Britain might need to make concessions in next year's talks. He added: "How else do you advance negotiations? There is another way — wrap yourself in the national flag and give not an inch."

Then in an interview on *The World This Weekend* on BBC Radio 4, Mr Heseltine delivered remarks that suggested he was far from happy with the Cabinet's perceived shift towards Euro-scepticism. He said that the change in mood over Europe had been created

by the recession and "indigestion" over the single-market rules and regulations. There were two ways to react: either by saying that the public must be right or putting over the positive arguments of British self-interest to lead public opinion back. In what seemed to be criticism of his colleagues, he added: "I have been around quite a long time. I have not changed my mind on these major issues and I think it is unlikely that I will now. And I certainly won't do it in order to pander to a whim of what happens to be potentially a temporary change of some people's opinions."

Mr Heseltine said that Britain had to be involved in the work preparing for a single currency, whether it eventually joined or not, in order to ensure that nobody "pulled a fast one". Britain would have to ponder at the time "whether it is in Britain's self-interest and what the consequences of not joining are."

All his remarks implied that he was in favour. He said that if a significant number of countries went ahead and Britain did not, some companies might say that because they had a big European interest, they would switch their banking facilities into the new common currency. "If that were to happen, it could well be you will find that the effects of a single currency will come to this country whether you like it or not."

He said that anxieties about Britain's commitment to Europe were being expressed by people taking investment decisions: "It is of the first priority that we do not undermine the remarkable success we are attracting in bringing all that inward investment. They are coming here because they believe we are the best place in Europe in which to invest. We must not allow doubts to arise about that."

Peter Riddell, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Absinthe (Girl in a Café) by Picasso, featured in Hermitage Art in Vanity Fair with other unveiled treasures by Cézanne, Monet, Manet and Matisse

Masterpieces discovered in Russian museum

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A CÉZANNE and a Picasso assumed to have perished in the Second World War and unseen since they were taken by the Red Army are published in *The Times* today.

The paintings were confiscated in 1945 by Soviet troops as compensation for Hitler's mass destruction of their cultural heritage. Cézanne's *Bathers* and Picasso's *Absinthe (Girl in a Café)* are among 74 masterpieces of French Impressionist, post-Impressionist and modern art that have been hidden within the vaults of the Hermitage museum in St Petersburg.

The Russians are about to unveil them, along with a collection that includes Mo-

net, Manet and Matisse and most of the leading masters of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

As many as two-thirds of the pictures have never been published and most have never been exhibited. Before the war they were hidden away in private collections; after the war they were secreted in the museum.

Professor Mikhail Piotrovski, the Hermitage's director since 1992, said that he first saw the art stored in his museum when he became deputy director in 1991, though his father had been director for 26 years. He spoke of the strange sensation of being the only scholar in

the world who could enjoy Degas's *Place de la Concorde*, Gauguin's portraits of children and early Monets that show the master's development into Impressionism. Some 15 images will be published for the first time by *Vanity Fair* magazine on Wednesday.

Several of the paintings will be shown at the Hermitage for the first time this week, whetting the world's appetite for a major exhibition from March 30 to August. It marks the first of a series of shows from these once-secret collections. A show of drawings is also planned.

Stolen art, page 5

Unionists step up pressure on Major

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

ULSTER Unionists yesterday tried to step up pressure on John Major to ditch plans to allow Dublin involvement in Northern Ireland by putting themselves on an election footing and hinting that they would be happy to work with a Labour government.

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Police besiege empty shop as royal gem thieves escape

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT AND ALAN HAMILTON

JEWELS belonging to the Norwegian royal family were part of a £250,000 haul taken from Garrard, the Regent Street jewellers, yesterday. Police surrounded the store in London's West End for six hours, unaware that the three raiders had already fled the scene.

The area, busy with Sunday shoppers, was sealed off after a burglar alarm was triggered and police surrounded the shop. Two security guards held by the raiders were released, but when police with dogs subsequently searched the store, they found it was deserted.

Flying Squad officers and store staff were last night checking the stock of a shop famous as the Crown Jewellers. The stolen items, including a tiara and brooches belonging to the Norwegian royal family, were not being held in the jeweller's main vaults but in a safe in a less secure area where they were awaiting collection. The tiara was thought to have been worn by Queen Sonja, although the Norwegian Government declined to comment.

Scotland Yard said the robbery began at 10.25 yesterday morning when two security guards, arriving to collect a



Armed police during the siege in Regent Street yesterday

consignment for delivery to a client, were pounced on and bundled into the building. The alarm went off about 15 minutes later. When police arrived they found one guard lying in front of the building handcuffed to a railing and another who had managed to free himself. They had been bound, gagged and blindfolded by the raiders, who obtained keys to the basement safe and took four or five items of jewellery.

One of the raiders was dressed in police uniform of yellow reflective jacket and white helmet and was carrying a revolver of First World War vintage. He was described as being about 6ft 2in and stocky, while the other two were said to be about 5ft 6in and aged about 50. A large

area around Regent Street and Piccadilly Circus was cordoned off. After several hours of appeals to the raiders to give themselves up police were forced to admit the intruders were no longer in the building. They were thought to have escaped as soon as police arrived, mingling with the Sunday shopping crowd. More than 70 officers were involved in the siege after reports that the raiders were armed. A police spokesman said that no shots had been fired. Norwegian authorities dismissed suggestions that the Norwegian crown jewels were in London and claimed that they were still safely locked away in a Trondheim cathedral.

£1.2m deal for PowerGen boss

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive, made more than £1.2 million in a share option deal last year, research from Income Data Services has revealed.

Five of his fellow directors each made paper profits of between £783,000 and £931,000. In the middle six months of last year, directors across British industry exercising share options made profits of nearly £170,000 each, the IDS survey found. Page 44

America puts off Chinese sanctions

A three-week period of grace before tough sanctions come into effect in the trade war between America and China have bolstered hopes that a settlement can be reached. Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, said that the Chinese were copying computer software, books, canned goods, breakfast cereals and compact discs. Page 12

Leak threatens shuttle mission

Fuel leaking from a thruster on the space shuttle *Discovery* could threaten today's rendezvous with the Russian *Mir* space station. Two leaks have been found and the Russians are concerned that the fuel could damage *Mir*. Page 6

Howard plans 'house of pain' regimes for youth offenders

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to introduce American-style "boot camps" in Britain to provide tougher and more physically demanding regimes aimed at knocking criminal tendencies out of young offenders.

Plans for a pilot project in which young convicts will face a strict military-type schedule of work, exercise and education are to be unveiled within the next few weeks.

The proposal has been disclosed in a prison service document leaked to *The Times*. It states that a key part of its future strategy will be the introduction of "a pilot project for young offenders based on the high impact programmes developed in the United States, which provide a long and more active day and a more demanding regime".

Derek Lewis, director-general of the service, refused to comment on the plan which has been developed after both he and Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, visited the United States and looked at "incarceration" camps to see if they or something similar could be introduced in Britain.

Military-model "high impact incarceration programmes" operate in several parts of the United States including Rikers Island, a jail in New York, which Mr Lewis visited last year. Its Adolescent Reception and Detention Centre is known by inmates as "The House of Pain".

The no-nonsense regime begins with a 5 am alarm to start the day, early morning runs, drilling, plus five half days attending classes. Lights go out at 10 pm and inmates must have marine-type short hair-cuts and cannot watch television or wear jewellery.

While on the rigorous programme inmates carry out community service work, including removing graffiti from

public buildings and are provided with counselling on substance abuse, alcohol and drug problems.

At Rikers Island inmates must spend a minimum of 60 days on the programme and receive certificates to say they have successfully completed the course at a graduation ceremony. The ceremony includes a military-model display and inmates singing the American and Puerto Rican national anthems.

The Home Secretary has been anxious to toughen regimes throughout the penal system and said last year that the public wanted "tough and challenging penalties" for young offenders. His decision to introduce a pilot scheme based on the American experience will delight the Right of the Conservative Party which has been demanding tougher action against young offenders and an assault on the probation service which is seen by Home Office ministers as the weak link in the criminal justice system.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, issued a warning that previous experiments in Britain had proved a failure. The "short, sharp shock" regime introduced by William Whitelaw in the early 1980s had not cut re-offending rates, he noted. A project involving inmates at Louisiana was fraught with danger as many offenders were unfit because of drug or alcohol abuse.

In America the record of "boot camp" programmes in cutting re-offending is regarded as unproven. A study of what happened to inmates from camps in Louisiana showed that they violated parole at roughly the same rate as former inmates of prisons.

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Rescuers condemn press auction for climbers' tales

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

TWO young women trapped for two nights on Ben Nevis in sub-zero temperatures survived almost unharmed by digging a snowhole and wrapping their arms around each other. They won praise from rescuers for meticulously following survival techniques, but were also criticised for accepting money from journalists for their stories.

Zoe Green, 20, a journalism student from Sheffield, and Iona Roden, 22, from Warwickshire, never gave up hope but admitted that they did not know how much longer they could have gone on.

Miss Green said: "It was a double nightmare on Friday when we realised we were going to have to spend another night up there. It was horrible. Very, very frightening. We knew we'd live another night, but we didn't know what was going to happen beyond that."

The women were discharged from hospital yesterday into the care of journalists who had reportedly paid five-figure sums for their stories.

The bizarre auction ended when Miss Green accepted an offer believed to be £20,000 from the *Daily Mail* and her companion accepted what was believed to be a similar figure from a Birmingham news agency.

But the rescuers who saved the pair expressed anger at the way the women's story was auctioned to the press. Terry Confield, leader of the Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team and one of the team



Iona Roden: criticised over press cash deal

who found the women, said: "Ours is a voluntary service. It does not cost the public any money and it does not cost the people we rescue any money. So we don't expect them to be taking money for it."

A spokesman for the *Daily Mail* said last night that at Miss Green's request a donation would be made to the Lochaber mountain rescue team, but he declined to say how much would be given.

Over the weekend, six bids on crumpled slips of paper had been handed to Alistair Grant, the divisional general manager of Belford Hospital in Fort William.

Mr Grant, who had provided a shuttle service between the journalists and the women, was bewildered. "I have been here for 20 years but I have never known this to happen before," he said. "I suppose it is something that is going to happen more

often now," he added. The Lochaber team has 45 members and they are called out between 60 and 70 times a year. It costs £30,000 a year to run the team with each volunteer needing £1,000 of equipment.

The students from the University of Central Lancashire had tried to struggle to the summit of the 4,066ft mountain on Saturday morning but discovered they were too exhausted to make the last 200ft. "We realised we were too weak and sick and couldn't go on," Miss Green said.

As the women huddled together in their snowhole they could hear avalanches thundering past them. Later on they heard the tantalising sounds of dogs barking and helicopters overhead.

They frantically blew on their whistles and flashed SOS signs on their torches. But the search party of 40 rescuers and two sniffer dogs which had set off at first light on Friday failed to find them.

As dusk fell rescuers abandoned the search as gales of up to 70mph and blinding snow forced the searchers back and stopped helicopters from landing.

A team of 75 mountain rescuers took to the hills on Saturday while the women's anxious relatives waited in Fort William. Yesterday they admitted they had given up hope of ever seeing the pair alive. Miss Roden's mother said: "I had these terrible pictures in my head. I kept seeing her lying there, injured or dead."

"You feel so powerless. There's nothing at all that you can do. But I was frantic. I was convinced that she was dead. I spent most of the night trying to face the worst."

Describing the moment when they were found, Miss Green said: "When the rescuers arrived, I just broke down. One of them put his arms around us and gave us a big hug."

The women were praised by their rescuers for their survival skills and their high quality equipment. Donald Watt of Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team said: "They did the right thing in staying put. Conditions on the Ben at the moment are not too good."

"On Friday we had extreme avalanche conditions so we couldn't put too many searchers in the one area. There were 75 people on that mountain with glum faces reckoning they were looking for a tragedy and now they're beaming."



Zoe Green leaves hospital yesterday with Lesley Rickard, her mother, and Peter, her brother

Hospital threatens court action to recover needle

BY NIGEL HAWKES

THE hospital accused of leaving a hypodermic needle inside a newborn baby is to seek a court order to get the needle back.

Treliske Hospital in Truro, Cornwall, said that an investigation into the incident could not proceed without the needle. If it were not returned by noon today the hospital would go to the courts to recover it.

A spokesman said: "We have a duty to the public and to the baby's health to ensure that this investigation is completed as quickly and as thoroughly as possible. The Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust is very concerned that the refusal by the legal representatives of the baby's parents is delaying this important investigation, and we are now seeking a court order to recover the needle."

The baby's father, Steve Jones, 31, from Helston, Cornwall, said: "I thought it was a joke. They are adding insult to injury." He said that

he and his wife Andrea had not been able to settle into normal family life with their son because of the incident.

Adrian Hickman, a medical injuries specialist representing the couple, denied that they had refused to release the needle, but said that they needed to take expert advice and to consider the matter further. The needle was in the hands of an independent expert who would carry out a scientific examination for the family, he said.

Mr Hickman said he had been unable to instruct the expert formally because last week the Legal Aid Board refused an application he made on the baby's behalf. An appeal against that decision is to be made in Truro in a few days.

Mrs Jones, 24, said that she had found the 1½in needle in the skin of baby Benjamin's back as she changed a nappy. Her husband, an air traffic controller at Royal Naval Air

Station, Culdrose, pulled it out.

Benjamin was born six weeks prematurely on Christmas Day at Treliske Hospital. Ten days later the hospital carried out blood, lumbar puncture and swab tests. The next day a lump was spotted about one inch to the right of his navel. X-rays and ultrasound tests were carried out but no treatment given.

It was a week later that Mrs Jones says she saw the needle appearing. She believes that it had somehow travelled from Benjamin's stomach to his back. Although Benjamin appeared unharmed, the parents were concerned that he might have contracted an infection from the needle. Dr Neil Marlow, a consultant in child health from Bristol Maternity Hospital, and Mrs Trudi Cameron, quality co-ordinator of neonatal services at Nottingham City Hospital, have been appointed by the trust to hold an independent inquiry.



Andrea and Steve Jones, who say they found a 1½in needle in their baby



Ashok Bajjoresai speaking to the press at Fremantle about his wife's death

Yachtsman tells how his wife wasted away

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

POLICE in Western Australia last night gave a rescued British yachtsman permission to leave the country after being satisfied with his account of how his wife died at sea.

Ashok Bajjoresai, who told a press conference how his British-born wife Pamela wasted away after their yacht drifted for two months in the Indian Ocean, is expected to return to Mauritius by air later this week. The couple, who were married in Singapore in August, were sailing home to Mauritius.

He was interviewed by police after he stepped ashore on Saturday from the Russian cargo ship *Anatoly Vasiliev*, which had rescued him from the Indian Ocean a week earlier.

Yesterday, accompanied by Bob Andrews, British vice-consul in Fremantle, Mr Bajjoresai, 54, said he did not consider it reckless to set out on such a long voyage without a satellite beacon and without notifying anyone in Mauritius of their likely arrival date. "I just had very bad luck. You could go out on the street tomorrow and be knocked over," he said. "I can't blame myself."

The Mauritius-born British passport holder described the anguish of watching the slow death of the woman who had been his companion for almost 30 years. His 66-year-old wife had grown gradually weaker and sicker, unable to

eat from their dwindling rations, as their disabled 30ft yacht *Dream Weaver* drifted in mid-ocean.

"It should have taken us three weeks to reach our home in Mauritius after our last stop at Lebuhan, a small Indonesian fishing village near Java," he said. But on November 28 a storm broke the £35,000-yacht's mast and set the couple adrift 250 miles off the coast of Mauritius.

"My wife was already sick and although we had experienced tropical storms at sea before, I now felt my luck had run out," he said. "She could not keep anything down: not even water. Finally she did not even want to try to drink. I was helpless. All I could do was comfort her and keep trying to persuade her to take the water. We did not talk about death at all. I don't know if she realised she was dying."

"When she died, I washed her and dressed her in her best clothes. Then 24 hours later I said a prayer and put her over the side. I had no choice."

Mr Bajjoresai described the bitter disappointment of seeing a ship pass on the horizon on Christmas Eve. "My wife was not so ill then and I cannot describe my excitement. I sent up a flare, but it was ignored. Either the passing ship didn't see me, or didn't want to know me."

After his wife's death Mr Bajjoresai survived the final weeks on fish, flour and rice.

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LONDON ELECTRICITY

Families of Lockerbie victims angered by 'flagrant breach of promises' to tighten security

Anti-terrorism measures at airports to be axed

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

CUTS in government anti-terrorism inspections at the Channel Tunnel and at international airports provoked an angry response yesterday from families of the Lockerbie bomb victims.

The Department of Transport confirmed yesterday that nearly a third of the staff attached to Transec, an anti-terrorist inspectorate set up after the Lockerbie disaster, are to go as part of an efficiency drive.

The cuts were revealed in a leaked memorandum written by Harry Dittus, who was appointed chief inspector of transport security by Margaret Thatcher after he had retired from a senior intelligence post.

The reductions in staff, which will also affect the security inspections at British ports, were criticised by Jim Swire, spokesman for the families of the Lockerbie victims, whose daughter Flora was killed in the bombing. He said: "I am as angry as I can be about this. I feel betrayed."

Transec was formed in Oc-

tober 1991 after the 1990 Aviation and Maritime Security Act was passed, which was drawn up in response to the lessons learnt from the Lockerbie disaster in 1988.

Dr Swire described the cuts as an "an insult to the memory of those who died" and gave warning that they would significantly increase the risk of another tragedy. "They are in flagrant breach of promises made by a succession of secretaries of state," he said.

The memorandum from Mr Dittus informed Transec staff that 34 jobs out of 120 would have to go by early 1996 to achieve 30 per cent "efficiency gains". Three out of five teams who make checks at airports will be axed.

The leaked document said that Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, approved the cuts on January 26.

However, last year the Cabinet Office carried out a comprehensive review of security, after the announcement of the IRA ceasefire and the perceived reduction in the terrorist threat, and advised all



Swire: "As angry as I can be about this"

relevant departments to examine their security budgets.

Since then, other Government departments have been engaged in security reviews and further cuts are expected. The Foreign Office is already involved in changing security requirements at embassies abroad now that the IRA ceasefire has lasted more than five months.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office, confirming an

internal study, said: "There are areas where cuts in staff and costs are being made but within the constraints posed by security concerns."

Although the reassessment of the terrorist threat is linked to the IRA ceasefire, the Government's intelligence advisers are aware that any breakdown in the negotiations on the Downing Street declaration could lead to a renewal of violence.

Security sources said that the extreme hardliners in the IRA hierarchy still seemed prepared to accept the peace option as the way forward. However, if they became convinced that their peace negotiators, led by Martin McGuinness and Gerard Kelly, would fail to achieve the concessions they wanted, they might resort to violence again.

Viscount Goschen, the minister responsible for aviation and shipping, put out a statement emphasising that the efficiency gains "do not involve security staff, but civil servants". The Department of Transport said that "security on the ground" remained the responsibility of the individual



Leaked memo discloses that inspection of security arrangements at international airports is to be reduced

transport authorities. Transec, which is charged with monitoring the security measures carried out by ports and airports, was staffed by civil servants.

Lord Goschen said: "We remain committed to ensuring that the highest security stan-

dards are in place across the transport industry."

Joan Walley, Labour's transport spokeswoman, said her party would press the Government to reverse the cuts. Michael Meacher, Shadow Transport Secretary, yesterday accused Dr Mawhin-

ney of breaking his word about security at the Channel Tunnel and said he would be raising questions in the Commons today. He said: "These cuts represent a dangerously false economy and will undermine public confidence. Security should not be subject to

the vagaries of public expenditure cuts."

He said that although the terrorist threat in Northern Ireland had abated, international terrorism could flare up at any time and security provisions had to be rigorously maintained.

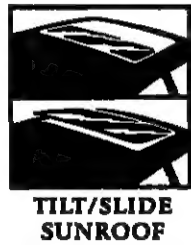
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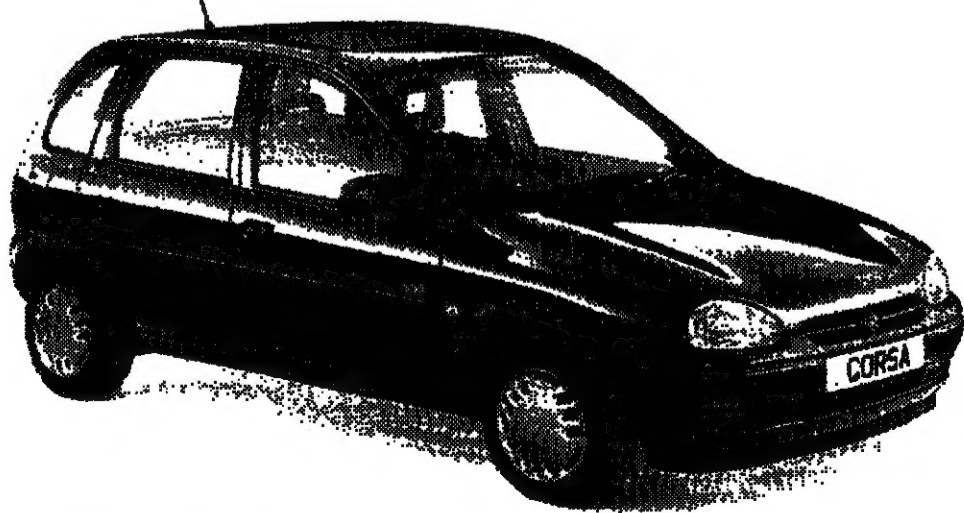
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Police seek evidence of need for change

By STEWART TENDLER

A POLICE inquiry into the spread of organised crime and the creation of a British FBI is expected to report within weeks.

The investigation by Bill Taylor, Commissioner of the City of London Police and chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' crime committee, could prove crucial to the shape of future detective work and the growing debate about new work for MI5.

Mr Taylor has spent the past three months taking soundings from officers across the country on the extent of serious and organised crime in their areas. Police and other agencies are also being asked how current detective teams, including the nine regional crime squads and the national criminal intelligence service, are coping.

Chief constables last autumn asked Mr Taylor to "consider the current extent and nature and future trends of international, national and interforce crime affecting the UK and to consider whether there is evidence of any need for change".

Impact of street patrols to be studied

By STEWART TENDLER

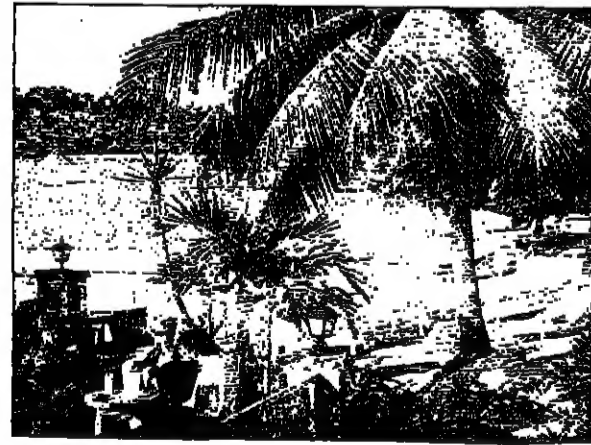
POLICE car and foot patrols are to be investigated by national efficiency experts to see if they could do their job better. The first national study of the bobby on the beat is to be launched by the Audit Commission this spring.

Similar research of other police work has led to reforms in the Criminal Investigation Department, paperwork, budgeting and evidence gathering. The findings will be ready in about a year.

Foot and car patrols by 25,000 officers in England and Wales account for 20 per cent of all police work and cost £1.13 billion a year. But some question the value of the work, despite public and political support for a regular police presence on the streets.

Critics say that a policeman on patrol is likely to arrest a burglar only once in 40 years. They say his time could be better spent on more specific duties. Researchers will consider ways in which civilian patrols, such as security guards funded by local authorities and residents, might be used to reduce demands on police.

THE TIMES



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'It was not a sin to take the works. It was a sin not to show them to the people'

Art stolen by Russians resurfaces 50 years on

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

DESCENDANTS of a wealthy German industrialist are expected to make a claim on an art collection confiscated from his estate in 1945 by Soviet troops as compensation for Hitler's mass destruction of their cultural heritage. The disputed works are among masterpieces that have been hidden away for half a century in the Hermitage, St Petersburg.

Most came from the collection of Otto Krebs, a businessman from Mannheim. Several members of his family are living in France and Germany, James Roundell, head of Christie's Impressionist department, said. They would "no doubt be interested" to see the works and relevant documentation.

Professor Mikhail Piotrovski, director of the Hermitage, said that little was known about Mr Krebs. It

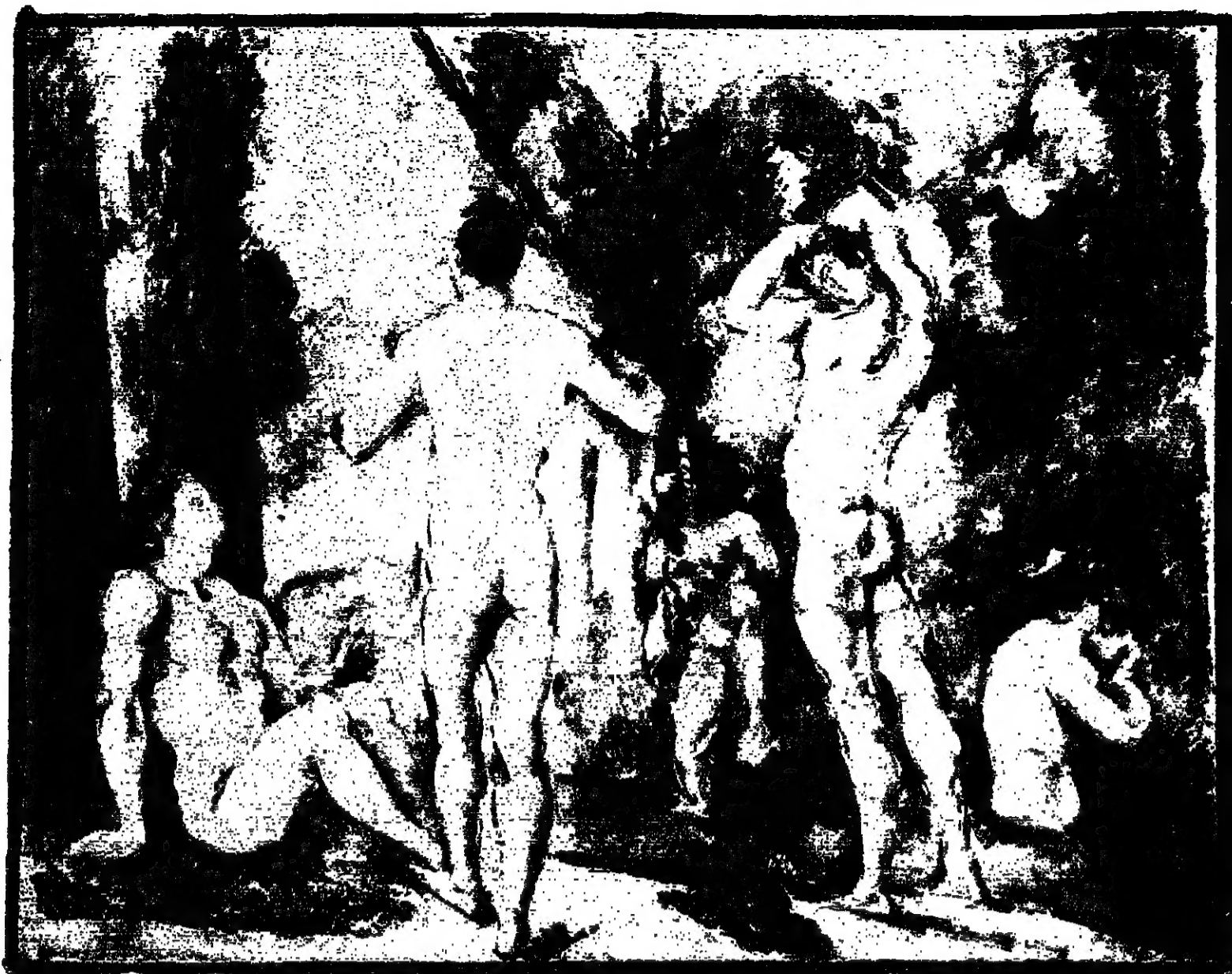
seems that he was not an active Nazi, that he stopped collecting before they came to power, and that he died of cancer in 1941. His art collection was found in a safe room when Vasily Chuikov, a Soviet general, requisitioned Mr Krebs's estate near Weimar as his regional command headquarters.

Among the works found there were Cézanne's *Bathers*, 1890-91, and Picasso's *Abstinence*, 1901. Although Cézanne painted almost 200 variants on the theme of bathers, this study is particularly unusual in showing male rather than female subjects.

From its photograph, Dr John House, a scholar of 19th-century French art at the Courtauld Institute, described the work as "a very splendid example." There are other variants on the composition, but it is wonderful to have it back. Clearly it adds to our knowledge of the sequence of pictures.

Looking at a photograph of Picasso's *Abstinence*, a work in charcoal, chalk and gouache, Mr Roundell spoke of the excitement of seeing a work that had been lost to public view for some 50 years coming back into the public domain. It is a signed early work whose style predates the Blue period: as Mr Roundell put it, the image is obviously a Picasso of 1901, "still loose and expressionistic".

It relates to other works on similar themes, including a major work in the Hermitage. Professor Piotrovski pointed out that it reflects the inspira-



Bathers by Cézanne, unusually depicting male subjects, which is to be featured in an article on the Hermitage art in *Vanity Fair*

tion of Toulouse-Lautrec's café scenes on Picasso, who was then a young artist, newly arrived in Paris and absorbing its bohemian lifestyle.

Will Korte, who specialises in recovering Second World War art losses, said that if these and other works from the Krebs collection were to come to auction, they would fetch a billion dollars. "After all, there are five Cézannes, two Courbets, three Degas, four Gauguins, four Van Goghs, two Manets, four Mo-

nets..." He said that any claims will be complicated by the fact that Mr Krebs left more than half his art collection to a foundation devoted to cancer and scarlet fever research.

Asked about possible claims on these and other works, Professor Piotrovski, co-chairman of a negotiating commission of five German and five Russian museum directors, said: "We are a museum. These works are not in our collection. We are keeping

them for the government. Any claims go to them. I have no authority to take decisions on claims or to negotiate." But, he added: "The first step is to show what we have, to show the works and make people speak about the art not about 'symbols' in an emotional and hysterical way. We should enjoy the art. Art first, property afterwards."

He said that most Russians see the war booty as compensation for the destruction inflicted on their cultural

heritage. Between 1941 and 1944, not content with taking the lives of 20 million Russians, the Nazis sought to destroy their art: they plundered museums at Minsk, Kiev and Smolensk (taking hundreds of thousands of works of art back to Germany), vandalised palaces around St Petersburg and destroyed the frescoes of Novgorod. As Professor Piotrovski put it: "The Germans said the Slavs have no cultural heritage and that all must be

destroyed. We think that, morally and psychologically, we have a right to compensation." Yet he believes there is a new understanding in a changing climate. "The previous approach was to be silent. Now it is to discuss. It was not a sin to take the works out of Germany. It was a sin not to show them to the people."

Some 15 of the works will be published for the first time in *Vanity Fair* on Wednesday.

Rediscovered art, page 1

Americans offered part of Edgehill battlefield

By JOHN YOUNG

PART of the site of the Civil War battle of Edgehill is being offered for sale in an American magazine. An advertisement has been placed in *Robb Report*, a publication aimed at wealthy Americans, offering the eight-acre site as a whole or smaller lots.

It was claimed that the owner, a Mr McKay, had decided to sell the land after he had been refused planning permission to build on it. Much of the battlefield is owned by the Ministry of Defence and guarded by fences surrounding the largest ordnance depot in Britain. The rest is mainly farmland, partly owned by English Heritage.

Edgehill was the first serious engagement of the Civil War. On October 23, 1642, King Charles I's army, marching from Nottingham towards London, was intercepted at the foot of an escarpment between Stratford-upon-Avon and Banbury by the Parliamentary army under the command of the Earl of Essex.

The Royalists had slightly the better of the engagement, but at the end of the day more than 3,000 men were dead or wounded. Essex withdrew and, with winter advancing, the king decided to divert his troops to Oxford rather than continue towards the capital.

Ian Dickie, of the Battlefields Trust, which is campaigning for the statutory protection of Britain's historic battlefields, said yesterday that it was particularly interested in the Edgehill site, where it planned to build a visitor centre and to open footpaths for public access. It had applied for money from the new Heritage Lottery Fund, which is financed by proceeds from the National Lottery. "I am not sure that I am very happy about even a part of this historic site being sold abroad," Mr Dickie said.

Last September English Heritage issued a proposed register of 41 battlefields, including Edgehill, on which it would like to see a presumption against further development. It is due to publish a definitive register this year.

Stratford-upon-Avon District Council said yesterday that it was not aware of any application by a Mr McKay. It had, however, promised support for a new museum and interpretative centre.

John Blann, landlord of the nearby Castle Inn, said yesterday that he had never heard of Mr McKay. Some of the battlefield site was owned by the local Starkey family and by his landlords, the Hook Norton brewery, and "bits and pieces" changed hands from time to time.

Tree that produced first Bramley is apple of villager's eye

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE tree that produced the first Bramley apple is still bearing fruit more than 180 years after it was planted. For the past three decades Nancy Harrison, who lives in the village of Southwell, Nottinghamshire, in the house where she was born 74 years ago, has been the guardian of this remarkable piece of horticultural history, which draws visitors from all over the world.

"Even as a small girl I knew that the old tree at No 73 was something special," she said yesterday. "About 30 years ago I was able to buy the garden and the derelict cottage that went with

it for £500 and I have been looking after the tree ever since."

A storm blew the tree down just before the end of the last century so that the original trunk lies horizontal on the ground. But a secondary trunk grew from the old one and is still producing huge apples that weigh up to 1½ lb each.

The original Bramley tree is thought to have grown from apple pips planted in 1809 by Mary-Ann Brailsford, the young daughter of the family then living at No 73. She had been watching her mother preparing apples in the kitchen and took the pips from one of them. After her parents died Mary-Ann and her sister continued to live in the house until

they sold it in 1838, unaware of the immortality that might have been theirs. In 1846 the house was bought by Matthew Bramley, a local innkeeper and butcher.

In 1856 Henry Merryweather, a local nurseryman, struck by the size and quality of Mr Bramley's apples, asked permission to grow stock from grafts taken from the tree and to market the fruit. Mr Bramley agreed on condition that the apple should bear his name. The fruit was sold for the first time in 1862 and in 1876 the variety was formally recognised by the Royal Horticultural Society as Bramley's Seedling.

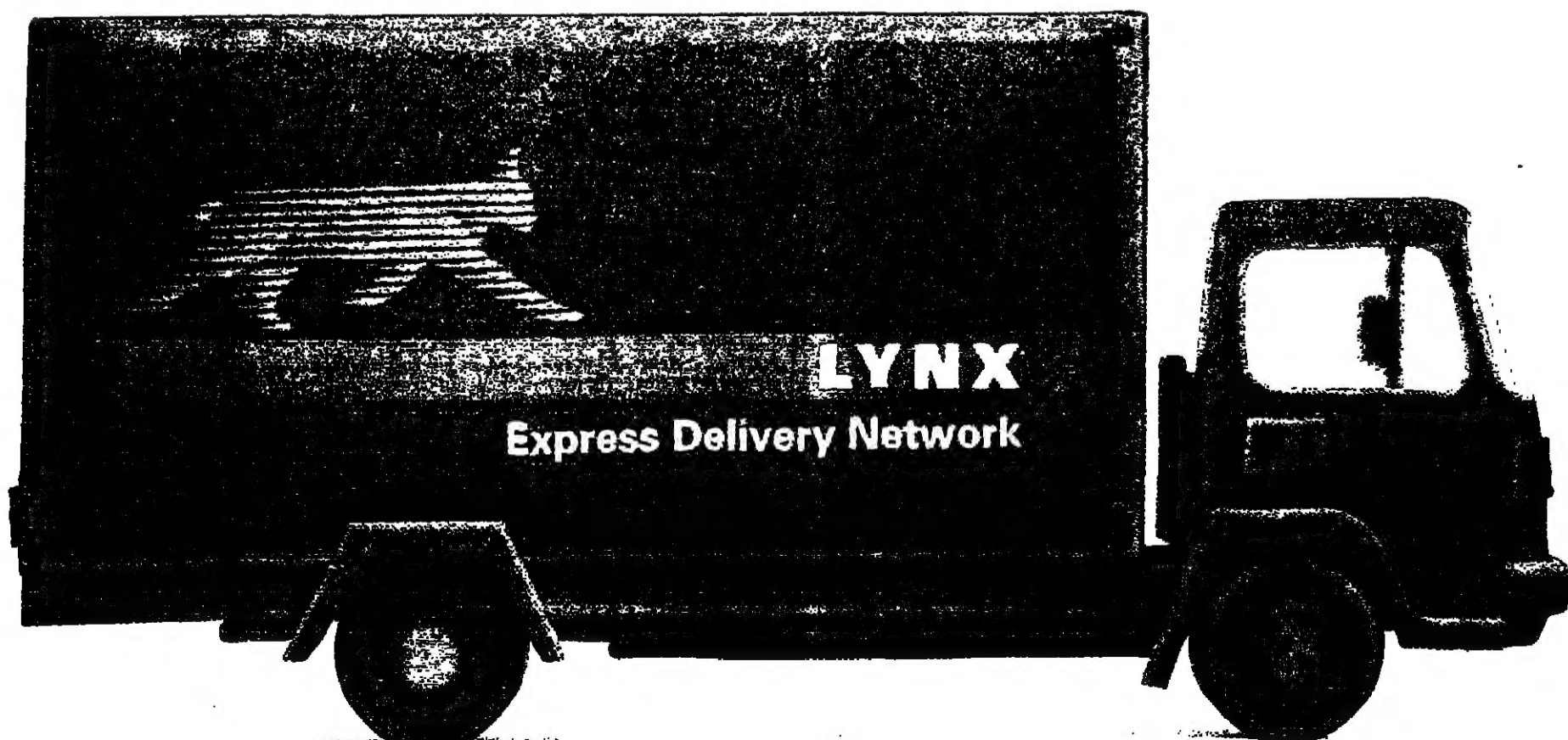
Now run by Roger Merryweather, Henry's great-grandson, the family

nursery in Southwell is still going strong. Since 1950 it has been the site of the Bramley Museum, created by the Bramley Campaign Group, a grower-funded promotional body which today launches the third National Bramley Apple week.

Trees descended from that venerable original will this year produce about 130,000 tonnes of Bramleys. But where did those first seeds planted by Miss Brailsford come from? "We will never know the precise origin of the Bramley apple," Mr Merryweather said. "Almost certainly it was the happy result of natural cross-pollination of two of the many apple trees growing in Southwell at the end of the 18th century."



Nancy Harrison and the first Bramley apple tree



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PART OF NCC

Russian officials fear that ice particles from fuel thruster could damage equipment

Shuttle leak puts in doubt link-up with Mir station

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

A SPRAY of fuel leaking from a rocket thruster on the space shuttle *Discovery* could threaten today's rendezvous with the Russian *Mir* space station. Two leaks have been detected since Friday's launch and Russian officials are concerned that the fuel emerging from the thrusters and turning into ice particles could damage *Mir*.

Discovery's crew yesterday reported that they had stanchied one leak from a thruster at the front, probably caused by frozen fuel preventing a valve from closing, and reduced another, from a thruster at the right rear of

Discovery, but that seepage could still present a problem. Mission controllers will not want to curtail the approach to *Mir*, an essential rehearsal for a planned docking with the Russian space station in June, but may have no option.

James Wetherbee, *Discovery*'s commander, described the leak as looking like "a very slow snowstorm" for the first time, but erupting every 20 to 30 seconds "like a geyser, with its finer particles moving at a higher velocity".

The propellant, nitrogen tetroxide, is held in a tank containing 2,000lb of fuel, and the leak was yesterday down

to about 8oz an hour. The thrusters operate when valves are opened to allow the fuel to expand and escape through nozzles arranged at different angles. In total, the shuttle has 38 such nozzles, which are used to control its orientation in space.

The rate of loss does not preclude a shortage of fuel, but the fear is that the fine frozen particles might damage *Mir*. The sequence of thruster firings as the shuttle approaches *Mir* was agreed in advance by American and Russian officials to ensure the space station is not sprayed with propellant.

Randy Stone, the mission operations director, said that NASA would do whatever the Russians want. In the worst case, the *Discovery* and its crew of six will have to fly around *Mir* from a distance of about 400ft, he said, rather than approaching to within 35ft, as planned for the first shuttle-Mir docking.

Liquid propellant turns into ice when it encounters the vacuum of space, and the small particles typically do not attach to anything, Mr Stone said. The leak poses no safety hazard to the shuttle or crew and does not affect flight duration. "We have a relative degree of comfort that the contamination would not be an issue if we were on the



The Briton Michael Foale, top left, and the other crew members share a joke during an interview from space

other side of the fence. But we have got to arrive at that conclusion together before we would make the commitment to go close," Mr Stone said.

The failed thruster is on the right, upper side of the shuttle at the rear. If it is shut off it would disable the other two jets in the same cluster, one of which is critical to the close approach to *Mir*. The crew managed to repair the front thruster by pointing the shuttle at the Sun, heating it up and melting the frozen fuel causing the valve blockage.

Commander Wetherbee said that he would be disappointed if he could not close in all the way, and that much information would be lost involving navigation and shuttle-handling. "There are a lot of unknowns, uncertainties with a rendezvous like this," he said. If *Discovery* was limited to 400ft, "then we'll give them what we can".

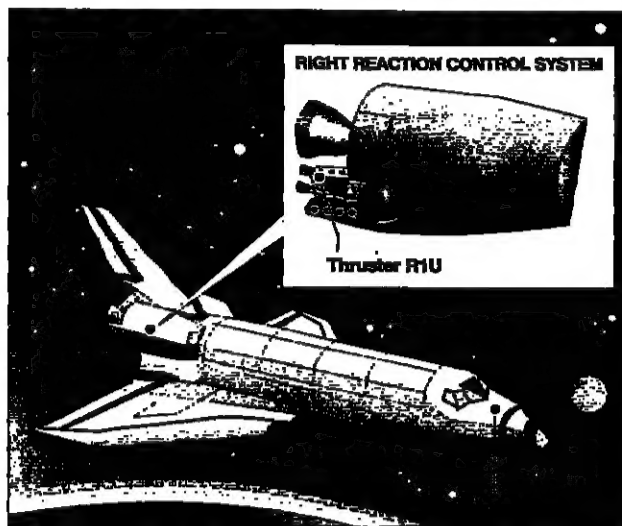
The crew has so far conducted a series of experiments, including lifting a satellite with *Discovery*'s 50ft robot arm and pointing it at the tail

to study "shuttle glow" — an eerie light that appears around the shuttle's surfaces in space. Scientists hope to confirm a theory that the glow is caused by atoms of oxygen and nitrogen combining as the spaceship slams into them.

Discovery's pilot, Air Force Lieutenant-Colonel Eileen Collins, said: "No matter what we do, we will still be getting a lot of good information for that flight, in testing our navigation sensors, our communication, and our flying qualities." Colonel Collins, the

first woman to pilot an American spaceship, said that Friday's lift-off was "really a kick". "Part of the launch that was really exciting for me was to have so many of the women pilots who flew back during World War Two come to see the launch and some of the women who tried to become astronauts back in the early 1960s," she said.

"Several told me they're going to be going with me and they want me to think about them while I'm up here. I certainly am."



Supermarket checkout assistants approach their sell-by date

By Robin Young

SUPERMARKETS are planning to abolish the checkout counter. With it would go many shop assistants' jobs, but also queues and customers' worries of being overcharged.

Stores in The Netherlands, Scandinavia and the United States are testing do-it-yourself scanning systems in which customers use handheld laser scanners and automated trolleys. The systems are being appraised by the leading British supermarket chains and are likely

to be introduced here within two years. Professor Gary Davies of the International Centre for Retail Studies in Manchester has estimated that eventually the technology could cut retailing jobs by two thirds.

In the Geldermalsen store of Albert Heijn, the largest Dutch supermarket chain, shoppers attach hand-held scanners to their trolleys and electronically read the bar-codes on the goods they choose. When shopping is complete, a bill is printed out which the customer takes to a cashier. Heijn claims the

system, introduced at Geldermalsen in 1993, has increased sales and improved the accuracy of pricing. It is being introduced to the company's 500 other Dutch stores and to a chain the company owns in Ohio.

Although self-scanning involves extra work for customers, it means that they can check each item's price and keep a running total. It eliminates the need to unload items on to the checkout conveyor belt and to put them back into the trolley after payment. At Albert Heijn, trolleys are randomly checked to ensure that

contents match the items listed on the bill. To make customers aware of the checks, they have to register as members of a club before using the scanners and to agree to the terms.

Other research has gone into automating checkout conveyor belts so that customers can scan their goods. Such systems are expected to become common throughout Europe within five years, particularly at express checkouts for scanning a few items.

Uniquist, supplier of software

systems and services, has designed one checkout for US stores in which goods travel through an archway where they are measured and weighed. If this information does not tally with the scanned bar-codes, the item is rejected. Uniquist has included a swipe-card facility so that goods can be paid for electronically.

Self-scanning checkouts have proved popular in America with elderly people. "They are convinced that the cashiers fiddle them," Geoff Beckett of Uniquist said.

The British Technology Group

has helped to develop a system in which each item is labelled with an electronic tag emitting a signal. The filled trolley is pushed through a gate similar to an airport X-ray machine that reads each signal and identifies all the items in seconds. Shoppers will spend a third of their cash in out-of-town stores within four years, according to a report by the retail analyst Verdict. It predicts that such developments will grow despite government attempts to revive shopping in the traditional high street.

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PRUDENTIAL



Highsmith: 20 novels

Patricia Highsmith dies at 74

By Alan Hamilton

THE American-born thriller writer Patricia Highsmith, once described by Graham Greene as the poet of apprehension, has died in hospital near her home in Switzerland, aged 74. The cause of death is not yet known.

Highsmith, who never married, wrote 20 novels, several short story collections and created the charming psychopath Tom Ripley. Her last book, *Ripley Under Water*, was published in 1991. She achieved major success with her first novel, *Strangers On A Train*, written in 1950 and made into a film directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Leading article, page 19
Obituary, page 21

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Gummer blocks gypsy site permit

By Ian Murray, Community Correspondent

JOHN GUMMER has halted council permission for 22 gypsy families to live on a field that they own in the Surrey stockbroker belt.

The Environment Secretary has ordered a sixth planning inquiry. He intervened after Waverley Borough Council decided that after 12 years on the six-acre site they had won the right to stay.

It is rare for plans involving such a small development to be sent to inquiry by the ministry, but the case will set the standard for control of gypsy encampments and will test the powers of the Criminal Justice Act. Under the Act councils are no longer required to provide sites and can have gypsies evicted but it also says that gypsies should be treated humanely and encouraged to buy their own sites.

Mr Gummer will personally decide whether to grant the gypsies planning permission after an inquiry this summer which will cost local taxpayers many thousands of pounds. Both objectors and gypsies are threatening to take the case to the European Court of Human Rights.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary and local MP, is being pressed by both sides to help.

In 1982 the gypsies bought a copse with money left by one of their group, Jane Mitchell, 55, said: "Life was getting hard by the side of the road." The copse, which they cleared, was next to two approved gypsy encampments on Stovells Hill, near Cranleigh, an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Waverley Borough Council ordered the gypsies to leave. Five times they fought and lost planning inquiries. Twice they have been fined for disobeying court orders to leave. Once they were ordered to pay all the costs of a planning inquiry. "We were illegal when we came here but I think we have paid a thousand times over for our crime," Mrs Mitchell said.

Waverley council and Surrey County Council intend to back the planning application at the inquiry and say that if the gypsies are evicted they will camp illegally elsewhere and the battle will start again. Objectors say the rule of law is at stake.



Cardigan-led Light Brigade at Balaklava

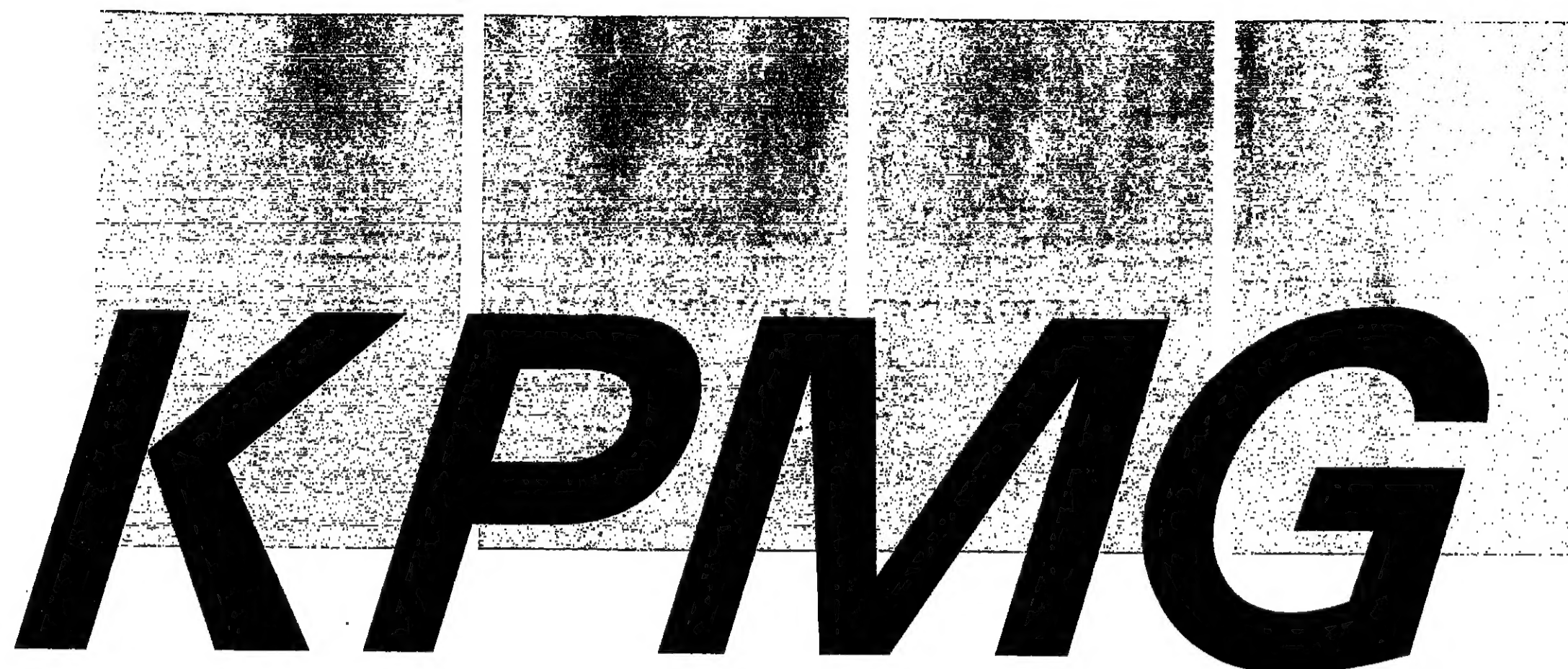
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[illegible]The image features the KPMG logo in a bold, italicized, black sans-serif font. The letters are positioned in the lower half of the frame. The background is composed of four vertical rectangular panels, each filled with a dense, black, grainy texture that resembles film grain or a high-contrast, noisy image. The panels are separated by thin white vertical lines. The overall composition is minimalist and modern.

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KPMG means business

Courthouse reopens for West case in Cotswolds

By A Staff Reporter

COMMITTAL proceedings against Rosemary West, the Gloucester housewife accused of ten murders, begin today. The case has drawn world-wide media attention, and lawyers acting for Mrs West are concerned to ensure that reports of the hearing — which are subject to restrictions in Britain but not abroad — are within the law.

Only a dozen places for members of the press are available in the small courtroom at Dursley Magistrates' Court in the Cotswolds. Proceedings will be relayed to other newspaper reporters, radio and television staff by audio link.

Reuters, the international news agency, which has a reserved seat on the press bench, will be providing a short report which complies with the reporting restrictions for the British media, and a fuller version for its foreign market.

Among those Mrs West is accused of murdering are her daughter Heather, 16, and step-daughter Charmaine, 8. Her husband Frederick West, a builder, who had faced 12 murder charges, was found hanged in his prison cell at Winslow Green, Birmingham, on New Year's Day.

The remains of nine of Mrs West's alleged victims were recovered by police who dug up the cellar of her house and the garden at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester.

She also is charged, jointly with named men, with two separate counts of rape involving one girl, and of assaulting an eight-year-old boy.

The court has been refurbished at a cost of £17,000 to cater for the hearing. New carpets have been laid, new locks fitted and a sound system links the main courtroom

to adjoining overflow rooms. The building was mothballed about two years ago as an increasing number of cases were being heard at more modern premises in Stroud. However, it was pressed into service for Mrs West's committal hearing to prevent Stroud and Gloucester Magistrates' Courts being clogged by international media.

Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Peter Badge will preside at the hearing, which is expected to last a week. He has to decide whether the prosecution has established that there is a case against Mrs West that she should answer at a Crown Court trial.

Off-duty, Mr Badge is chairman of the Coracle Society, an organisation devoted to keeping alive the ancient art of making and paddling the craft. He also owns what is believed to be the world's largest collection of coracles.

The Crown's legal team is headed by Neil Butcherfield, QC, a leading barrister on the western circuit, with junior Andrew Chubb, Sasha Wass, a junior counsel, will lead the defence case. Legal aid rules mean that her lawyer, Richard Ferguson QC, will not be present, although he has been supervising the case. It is expected that much of the evidence will be handed in a file to Mr Badge, the examining magistrate, and that only a handful of witnesses will be called to give evidence and be cross-examined.

The extensive playing fields of nearby Rednock Comprehensive School will be used as a car park, with journalists being charged £20 per vehicle per day, which will go to the school's funds. Small hotels and restaurants in the town are already reporting a boom in business.



Dursley Magistrates' Court, refurbished for the committal proceedings after two years out of use

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The Rev Tom Willis, vicar of Holy Trinity parish in Bridlington, is to step down as adviser to the Archbishop of York on the supernatural

Exorcist vicar relinquishes bell, book and candle

ONE of the church's leading exorcists is to step down after 30 years. The Rev Tom Willis, who is adviser to the Archbishop of York on the supernatural, will hold a seminar later this month to show others how to cope with the fight against the Devil (Paul Wilkinson writes).

"It will basically be a case of me passing my knowledge on to people less experienced in the occult," Mr Willis, 64, said. "It will be a training exercise for them to look at the kind of phenomena people complain to the clergy about."

About 30 clergy are expected at the conference in Scarborough, North Yorkshire. "I teach them how to cope with everything from hauntings by poltergeists to the effects of messing with tarot cards and ouija boards. I will show them how to expel evil spirits or how to help someone to come to terms with a visit from an apparition."

Mr Willis's interest in the supernatural was a hobby until, in the mid-1970s, he was asked by the Most Rev Donald Coggan, then Archbishop of York, to be his official adviser. "They say one in ten people is expected to see an apparition," Mr Willis said. He has dealt with up to 50 calls a year.

"from poltergeists in factory canteens to haunted mansions".

Probably his most celebrated case of exorcism, in which the Church's traditional instruments are bell, book and candle, was in 1987. He exorcised a trawler at Bridlington, Humberside, where he is vicar of Holy Trinity parish. The DHSS asked him to act after it got tired of paying benefits to a crew too frightened to go to sea.

Bar chief attacks media myth of greedy lawyers

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE chairman of the Bar has criticised the idea, which he says is perpetuated by the media, that lawyers are greedy and overpaid. He was responding to reports last week of the predicted £10 million in legal aid and court costs for the trial of the Maxwell brothers.

Peter Goldsmith, QC, said in a speech at Durham University at the weekend: "The media myth of greedy lawyers is an easy story for the press to run. The reality is, of course, very different."

The legal aid cases, which were the bread and butter of

the average practitioner at the criminal Bar, arguing a case before a jury in court, were based on an average rate of about £30 an hour, he said.

Last week lawyers working for the Maxwell brothers were quoted as being on enhanced legal aid rates because of the complexity of the work. Legal aid lawyers say the rates could be anything from £100 to £200 an hour.

Mr Goldsmith said that from the average payment in criminal legal aid cases of £30 an hour had to come tax, national insurance and all the other overheads "faced by any

other self-employed person". He added: "This rate has, in addition, been frozen for three years."

Last week Mr Goldsmith told *The Times* that some of the comment in the press seemed to imply that "lawyers should do legal aid work for nothing". He said at the weekend: "The justice system is critical to the health of our nation. We should consider criticism seriously, and not cease to look for improvements. But the fact is that independent surveys show that, of those with recent experience of the law and lawyers, over 70 per cent said that experience was good or very good."

Long fraud trials posed a dilemma for ministers and there were reforms that the Government should look at, Mr Goldsmith said.

The minister responsible for the police yesterday ruled out privatising national computerised criminal records. David Maclean said the records, giving details of the criminal histories of 3 million citizens, would always remain under government control.

Fears that the Government might sell off the police national computer, holding records of criminal convictions, have arisen as the Home Office prepares plans to co-ordinate and streamline individual forces' computer networks.

Women barristers complain of bias

MOST young women barristers believe sexual harassment or discrimination is widespread at the Bar with 40 per cent claiming experience of it, according to a Sheffield University survey published today (Frances Gibb writes).

A majority also thought sexual discrimination was not only prevalent but that it had taken "concrete form". One in four thought racial discrimination was a big problem.

The report, commissioned by the Council of Legal Education, comes after the first finding of sexual harassment

at the Bar last week by the Inns of Court disciplinary tribunal. Nigel Hamilton, QC, was suspended for three months after being found guilty of harassing a client he was defending and a solicitor's clerk.

According to the report, 5 per cent of young women barristers had experienced serious problems of sexual harassment, with a further 35 per cent reporting minor harassment. The findings, researchers say, indicate "a worryingly high level of experiences of sexual harassment".



The Oriana on the river Ems, northern Germany

P&O's leviathan prepares to wake

By TIM JONES

STANDING like a great white wall on the plains of northern Germany, the *Oriana*, Britain's latest liner, is almost ready to slip her moorings and crawl towards the open sea.

At 69,153 tons, about the same size as the QE2, P & O's mighty new liner has already become a tourist sight, attracting thousands of weekend visitors to her berth at the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg. Far more are expected to line the river Ems later this month when she begins her journey to the North Sea almost 30 miles away. Although the river has been dredged, her master, Captain Ian Gibb, will need all his skills to squeeze her past the narrow banks.

The *Oriana*, the fastest passenger liner to be built for 25 years, with an operating

speed of 24 knots, will then undergo sea trials before the final buff and polish at her home port of Southampton, where in April she will be named by the Queen.

While the *Oriana* is the first superliner to be custom-built for the British cruise market and will sail under the Red Ensign, no tenders for her construction were received from United Kingdom yards. David Dingle, P & O cruises marketing director, said she would be very different in style to the ships that cruise the Caribbean and cater for the huge American market. "She will be more wood and brass rather than marble and chrome."

The *Oriana*'s maiden cruise in the Atlantic leaves Southampton on April 9, with fares for the 14 nights starting at £1,499.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Four boys expelled by Radley for drugs

Four schoolboys have been expelled from Radley College, Oxfordshire, for taking drugs, believed to include cannabis and Ecstasy. The two sixth-formers and two younger pupils were told to leave at the weekend. In 1992, ten sixth-formers were expelled for smoking cannabis. The £10,000-a-year public school, ranked 19th in a list of the top 200 private schools in Britain, was once tipped to be the choice of the Prince of Wales for his son Prince William.

Surgeon cleared

Margaret Ghilchik, a consultant surgeon suspended after a patient alleged that she performed an unnecessary mastectomy at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, west London, has been reinstated. An independent inquiry found there had been no error of clinical judgment.

Joyrider dies

A boy aged 15 driving a stolen car died when he crashed into a lamp-post as he was being pursued by a police car. Roger Andrew's elder sister, Tanya, a passenger in the car, was slightly injured in the accident at Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, on Saturday.

Tourist killed

A British holidaymaker died after a snowmobile he was driving at 60mph across an ice-covered lake in northern Ontario crashed into the rocky shoreline. Michael Maughan, 20, of North Shields, Tyne and Wear, was taken to hospital by helicopter but died of his injuries.

Couple stabbed

A woman died and a man was injured after an attack in Macclesfield, Cheshire, early yesterday. The double stabbing "resulted from an on-going neighbour dispute", police said. A 26-year-old man was arrested and was being held at Macclesfield police station.

Crossing death

A woman saw her 21-year-old daughter knocked down and killed by a train at a level crossing at Witham, Essex. The accident happened on Saturday as the Colchester to London train passed the Mott's Lane crossing. The dead woman was taken to a hospital at Chelmsford.

Growing old

Fifteen times as many Britons live to be 100 as did 40 years ago. In 1991 there were 4,390 centenarians. Nick Bosanquet, Professor of Health Studies at London University, told a conference on caring for the aged that by 2010 one person in 20 will be over 80; today it is one in 33.

Undercover raid

Thieves stole umbrellas worth £35,000 from the Swaine Adeney factory at Great Chesterton, Essex, which supplies umbrellas to the Queen Mother, whips to the Queen and leather goods to the Prince of Wales. The umbrellas were recovered after a police chase by helicopter.

Body found

Police have launched a murder inquiry after a body was found in a shallow grave near the village of Headcorn, Kent. A post-mortem examination was carried out yesterday but the sex of the body or the cause of death has not been disclosed.

Bears for sale

A collection of over 800 teddy bears from the Cotswold Teddy Bear Museum at Broadway, Hereford and Worcester, which is to close after the retirement of its owners, will be auctioned by Bonhams in London on March 1. The sale is expected to raise £150,000.

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KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

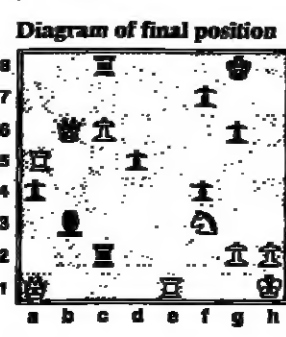
Rival championships

During September and October, Garry Kasparov will defend his Professional Chess Association world championship title in Cologne, Germany. Meanwhile, the rival Fide world Championship (semi-final stage) gets under way this week in Sanghi Nagar, India. Kasparov is the favourite in his match against Gelfand and previous games have left him with a substantial plus score against his Belarussian opponent. Here is one example.

White: Gelfand
Black: Kasparov
Linares 1994

Caro-Kann Defence

- | | | |
|----|------|------|
| 1 | d4 | c5 |
| 2 | d5 | cxd5 |
| 3 | exd5 | Nf6 |
| 4 | c4 | Nf6 |
| 5 | Nc3 | e6 |
| 6 | Nf3 | Bd6 |
| 7 | Bc3 | dxc4 |
| 8 | Bxc4 | O-O |
| 9 | O-O | b6 |
| 10 | Bg5 | Bb7 |
| 11 | Re1 | Bxc7 |
| 12 | bxc3 | Nd7 |
| 13 | Bd3 | Oc7 |
| 14 | Rc1 | Oc8 |
| 15 | Sh4 | Rf8 |
| 16 | Bg3 | Qa3 |
| 17 | O4 | Nf8 |
| 18 | Ne5 | Ng6 |
| 19 | Rg3 | Qf8 |
| 20 | f4 | Qd8 |
| 21 | Bb1 | Ne7 |
| 22 | Sh4 | Ng6 |



Winning Move, page 44

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This was a decision which fell to the West players in the 1995 Macallan Pairs. They held:

♠109732 ♥52 ♦10652 ♣109

At favourable vulnerability, partner opens One Heart. Would you try a response? In my experience partner always seems to continue with 2NT if you bid, and you go off when there is nothing on for the opponents. However, it can happen that bidding silences the opponents, particularly when they both have balanced hands of up to 14 points.

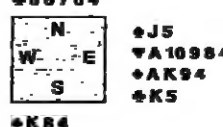
The Dutch liqueur company Bols has an annual competition for a bridge tip, and Mark Horton's entry this year

Dealer East.

North-South game. IMPs

♠AQJ ♥QJ7 ♦Q3 ♣J8764

♠109732 ♥52 ♦10652 ♣109



With the club suit coming in 3NT makes easily, even on the defence of leading three rounds of diamonds.

From February 10-19 I will be playing in the Malta International Bridge Festival. The organisers claim here is a reasonable chance of good weather. For details contact M Dix (fax 010-356-373683) or Paula Clarke at Thomas Cook (0171-408 4151, fax 0171-408 4299). From March 9-19 I will be at the tournament in Crans-sur-Sierre, Switzerland.

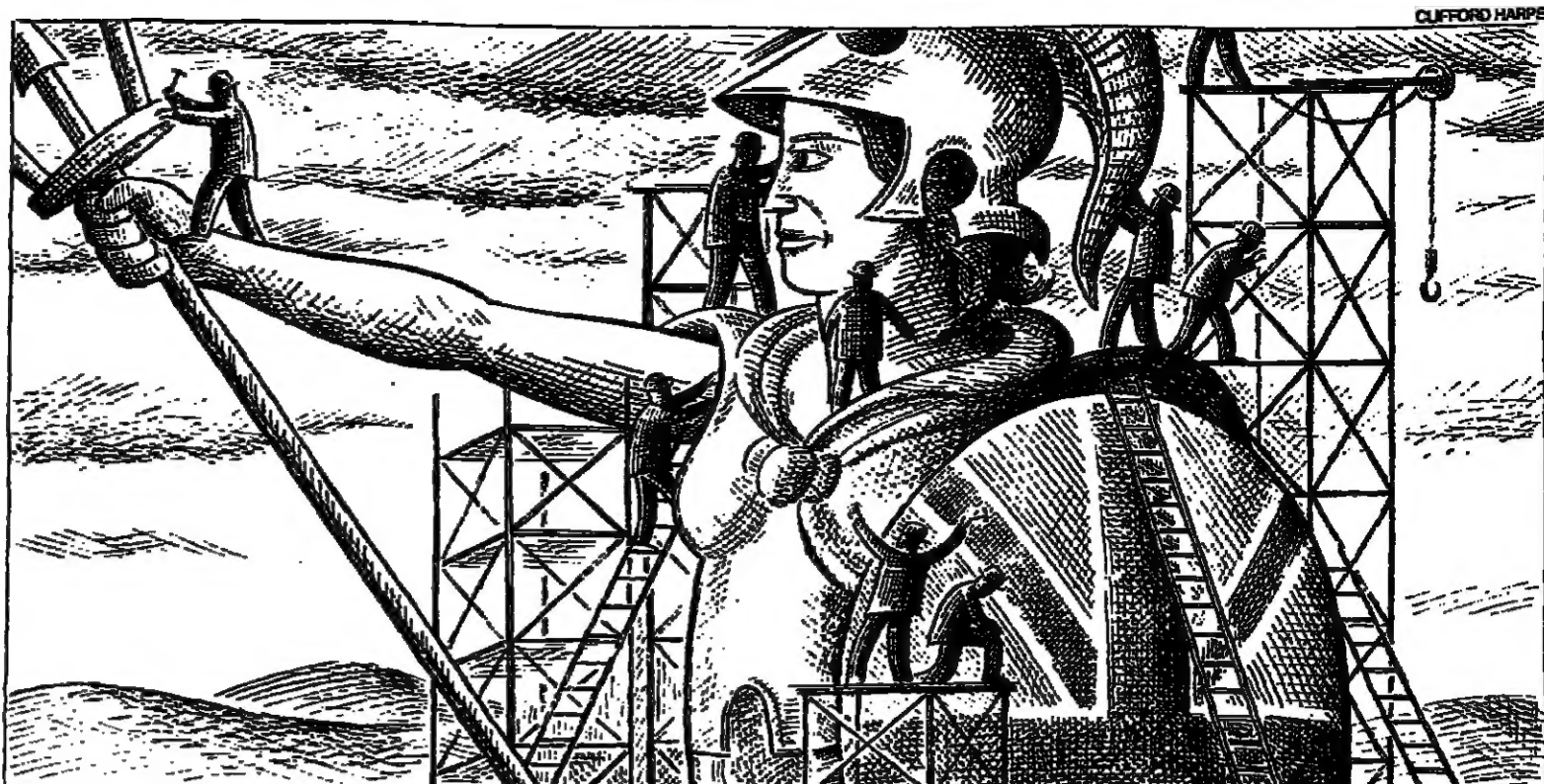
Old demonology leads only to unproven claims

Professor David Marquand called Will Hutton's recent book The State We're In "the Big Idea for which the Labour Party has been groping". Jonathan Clark is unpersuaded by this critical vision

bad a time as that of the Right. The old solidarities of Richard Hoggart, author of *The Uses of Literacy*, and *Coronation Street* are not likely to re-congeal in such an environment. But the culture of the Liberal Democrats, or of Blairite Labour, is equally unlikely to acquire a secure social base from which to reform the world by neighbourly niceness. Meanwhile, we have a powerful negative critique unmitigated by a viable positive vision.

The revolutionary potential

Hutton thinks otherwise. If Britain's public rottenness can all be traced to markets, its economic rottenness — underinvestment, lack of skills, consumer booms, asset stripping — can be traced to the biggest market of all. Hutton makes the City's vices dependent on what he sees as the "semi-feudal" nature of the British state. The absolute sovereignty of the Crown in Parliament



of this doctrine is obscured by its trappings of academic respectability. Hutton, a Governor of the London School of Economics and a leading light of Charter 88, wrote much of it during a term at St Antony's College, Oxford, and promi-

nently thanks Lord Dahren-dorf, its Warden. Professor David Marquand buffed the book as showing that "the peculiar deformations of British capitalism ... spring directly from the corresponding deformations of the financial

markets in the City, and that these in turn are symbiotically connected to the pre-democratic character of the British state."

consists almost wholly of unproven assertion. What matters is its negative critique rather than its positive vision. This is far removed from the world of the Webbs, Keynes and Beveridge, Timmuss and Halsey. It is closer to the mood

of 1815: like the Bourbons, some sectors of opinion in Britain have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing. But they want their revenge.

Jonathan Clark is a Fellow of the All Souls College, Oxford

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Opposition leader killed as Algiers attacks Mitterrand

By CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A LEADER of Algeria's National Liberation Front has been beheaded, security services said yesterday.

Ahmed Kasbi, a member of the Front's central committee, was abducted on Tuesday. His head alone has been recovered in a railway station at Khemis-Miliana west of Algiers.

The Front was one of the parties that participated in a conference last month in Rome between a number of the larger Algerian opposition movements, together with the banned Islamic Salvation Front.

Earlier, the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), one of the factions which is trying to overthrow the Algerian Government, claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on Monday which killed 42 in Algiers, and threatened to

carry out similar attacks over the next few weeks.

France yesterday shrugged off an outburst of anger from Interior Minister during President Mitterrand's visit to a European-sponsored conference to seek peace in the country's bloody civil conflict.

In an action that highlighted the isolation of the military-led Government in its war with Muslim insurgents, Algiers recalled its ambassador to Paris and summoned the French envoy there for an explanation. Officials and the state media hurled personal abuse at M. Mitterrand, charging him with interference for his suggestion on Friday that the European Union could mediate in talks that would draw on a declaration made at last month's Rome meeting by Islamic and civil opposition groups. State radio said M

Mitterrand was displaying the "visceral hatred of independent Algeria" which he had shown in the 1950s. As Interior Minister during France's long war with nationalists, M. Mitterrand was a staunch champion of *l'Algérie française*.

The Rome agreement was fiercely rejected by Algiers and also by the FIS and the GIA, the most extreme group in the underground war which has killed an estimated 30,000 people since 1991.

Behind the emotion of Algeria's weekend response is the growing fear there that France could be withdrawing the lifeline which it has offered, with its strong support for the Government's security policies and for its attempts to win aid from world bodies.

Worried about the possible emergence of an Iranian-style regime on France's southern flank, the Gaullist-led Government of Edouard Balladur has given military aid and arranged the rescheduling of Algeria's foreign debt and readied plans for some 6 billion francs (£750 million) of aid for Algeria. As current president of the EU, France is pressing its partners for a Mediterranean policy to promote links with Algeria and the other north African states.

There is no doubt that the Socialist President was going further than the Gaullist Government would have liked in floating what could only be seen in Algiers as a provocation. Some critics are accusing him of trying to stir trouble for M. Balladur as he approaches elections for the presidency.

However, the tenor of M. Balladur's policy has shifted since the New Year. The catalyst was the Christmas hijacking by GIA guerrillas of the Air France airliner. French officials were incensed over what they said was the refusal of the Algiers authorities to keep them informed about the operation when the plane was being held for two days there. "They lied to us all the time," one minister said. It took threats of a cut-off in aid to persuade the regime to let the Airbus take off for France.



Villagers from Bocarrente in the Valencia region of eastern Spain re-create the medieval splendour of the confrontation between Moors and Christians in an annual festival that dates from the 17th century

Husain seals Israeli friendship with 'fairytale' banquet for MPs

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

NEARLY a quarter of Israel's 120-member Knesset flew to Amman last night hosted by King Husain in a spectacular gesture designed to show that whatever problems the fragile peace accord between Israel and the Palestinians is facing, that with Jordan is thriving.

Twenty-eight parliamentarians from all parties led by Sheva Weiss, the Speaker, took part in the feast described by Israel radio as "a fairytale come true". They were flown in the first Royal Jordanian airliner to touch down at Ben Gurion international airport near Tel Aviv.

Mr Weiss said that the dinner invitation reflected the broad support among all Israelis for the peace treaty with Jordan signed last year, the second between Israel and an Arab state. He said that the disputes would present the King with a Bible in Hebrew and English. "We know the King is a religious man and

the Bible symbolises our historic record: both Arabs and Jews are the sons of Abraham."

The conciliatory banquet came only 24 hours after Israelis had been reminded of the recently ended state of war between the two neighbours. Two Israelis were killed accidentally when their vehicle was driven mistakenly into one of the many minefields that still line the Israeli-Jordan border, the longest between the Jewish state and any of its Arab neighbours. It took Is-

raeli troops most of Saturday night to extricate the bodies.

The value of the new friendship that already has seen thousands of Israeli tourists flock into Jordan, where the country's leading luxury hotel is now considering opening a kosher kitchen, was shown on Saturday night when the King lent his winter palace in the Red Sea resort of Aqaba for talks between Israel and the Gulf state of Oman.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, met Yusef bin Abdullah, his Omani

counterpart, in secret negotiations that eventually are expected to result in the establishment of diplomatic relations, further helping Israel to break out of the isolation that has dogged successive governments since the foundation of the state in 1948. The Israeli Cabinet praised the Jordanian leader for helping to arrange the meeting.

Uri Savir, the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and one of the officials most closely associated with the peace process, predicted that in the days and weeks ahead, Israel would succeed in strengthening ties with "Gulf and Maghreb" countries.

The royal banquet symbolised the genuine warmth of the new accord between Israel and Jordan, which ended a 46-year state of war, and it increased the already high personal respect felt by most Israelis on the Left and the Right for King Husain.

Memorial boycott threat

Jerusalem: Ultra-Orthodox Jews are threatening to boycott Yad Vashem, the sombre memorial on the outskirts of Jerusalem dedicated to the six million Jews slaughtered in the Nazi Holocaust, because they say photographs displayed there are "immoral" (Christopher Walker

writes). Yesterday the directors of the memorial, regarded as virtually a sacred institution by most Israelis, said they had turned down a request by a leading ultra-Orthodox pressure group to remove or cover photographs showing naked Jews being led to the slaughter.

Real-life bodice ripper for Hawke

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

IT HAS all the makings of a Mills and Boon novel. The distinguished former political leader leaves his wife for a younger woman, who has fallen madly in love with the man whose biography she was commissioned to write.

They sneak away to a lover's hideaway for Christmas, he pops the question and they celebrate their marriage plans in champagne style in the first-class cabin of a jumbo jet while on a whistle-stop world tour.

But this is not the plot to the latest in romantic fiction available from your friendly neighbourhood supermarket. It is the true love story that has been intriguing Australians for the past two months. And today every passionate detail will be revealed in breathless prose as Bob Hawke and Blanche d'Alpuget ponder their future together.

The couple have sold their story for a reported £100,000 in a joint magazine and TV deal with Australia's Channel 9 and Woman's Day, both owned by Kerry Packer, the media magnate. Inside the magazine, which carries the cover line "Bob and Blanche: Our love wouldn't die", the former Prime Minister admits he has already asked for her hand in marriage.

And according to a clip from the interview shown on last night's Channel 9 News, the reply was positive. Asked if she had accepted the offer of marriage, Ms d'Alpuget, 51, said: "I have in principle."

Even the former Prime Minister's agent, British-born Max Markson, has got in on the act, describing the story as the most revealing interview Mr Hawke has ever given.

Bob Hawke and his wife Hazel, both 65, separated late last year after 38 years of marriage. Mrs Hawke declined to comment yesterday.

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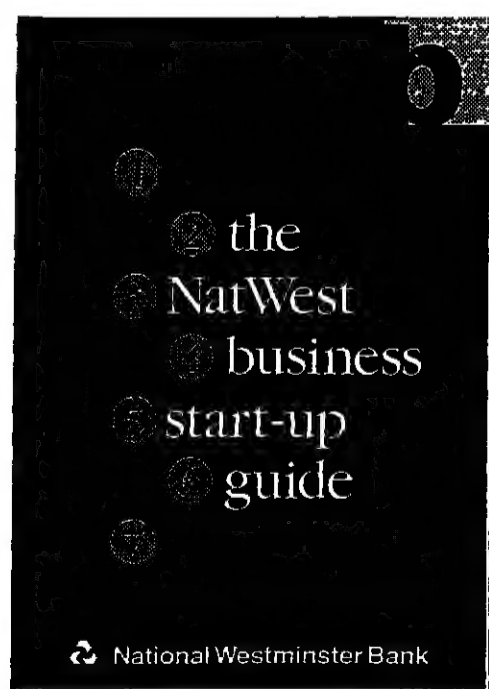
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Karachi gunmen kill 21

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Princess of Wales tones down image at start of three-day visit to Japan as charity ambassador

Royal wives plan English tea in empire of the sun

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

THE Princess of Wales flew to Japan yesterday to begin her most significant solo overseas tour since her separation more than two years ago. She will present an image vastly different from the glamorous sophisticated who last week wowed New York.

There will be no gala receptions or fashion shows during the Princess's three-day working visit to Tokyo as a charity ambassador. The official agenda instead abounds with visits to day-care centres, hospitals and homes for the elderly.

But the event which has set Japan's royal-watchers agog is a long-awaited meeting between the two Crown Princesses. Princess Masako, who married Crown Prince Naruhiko in June 1993, is said to have expressed great interest in meeting her British counterpart. The feeling on the British side, say insiders, is mutual. The two Princesses are scheduled to sit down

together, along with other members of the Imperial Family, on Wednesday at Tokyo's Imperial Palace for afternoon tea, English-style, according to palace officials.

News of the meeting has reinvigorated the British Princess's Japanese fans, who have been somewhat bemused by the scandals and revelations of marital woes besieging the royal couple. "Rei-di Di" mania peaked in 1988 and 1990 when the Princess accompanied Prince Charles to Japan. The frenzied adoration has since settled down into an intense but detached curiosity.

Now, however, commentators are busy drawing the obvious comparisons and pointing out the glaring contrasts between the Japanese and British Princesses. They are roughly the same age. Both saw their lives change dramatically — and traumatically — when they married into royalty. They were both billed as "fairytale" Prin-

cesses. Their husbands were both seen as somewhat stuffy models of decorum.

While one Princess dropped her forthright manner and retreated into the arcane protocol of the Imperial Household, however, the other has positively bloomed, all but shedding her husband along the way.

At 31, Princess Masako is two years younger than her British counterpart, but boasts a formidable curriculum vitae based on her high-flying career as a multilingual diplomat. She graduated in economics from Harvard University with a thesis entitled *External Adjustments to Import Price Shocks — Oil in Japanese Trade*, and then read international relations at Balliol College, Oxford.

It was after her return to Japan as a diplomat specialising in international trade issues that the Princess, then Masako Owada, caught the Crown Prince's eye. Her hus-

band's decision to marry a commoner who was widely regarded as too old, too tall and too tainted by her high-powered career caused some surprise.

Imperial will prevailed, however, and today the Princess's clear, sure voice and confident stride have been replaced by hushed, stiff tones and demure little steps, always the regulation three paces behind her royal husband.

Not a whiff of scandal has arisen about the imperial couple since their wedding. The only awkward issue dogging them is the absence of an heir, who in Japan, must be male.

The Princess of Wales's more sensational problems, meanwhile, have been widely publicised in Japan, where top-selling books and magazines regularly delve into the failed marriage, the kiss-and-tell revelations and taped telephone conversations.



The Princess of Wales will present a more caring and subdued image than she did in New York last week

Yard investigates phone bugging as gym case nears

BY ALAN HAMILTON

AS THE Princess of Wales set off for Tokyo yesterday, police confirmed that they were investigating allegations of telephone bugging in a case involving her, which is due to be heard in the High Court next week.

The Princess is suing Mirror Group Newspapers and Bryce Taylor, owner of a west London fitness club, over photographs of her exercising in the gym, published in the *Sunday Mirror* in 1993 and said to have been taken without her consent.

Solicitors representing Mr Taylor complained to Scotland Yard last week that a telephone call concerning the case made by a member of their staff, was illegally intercepted and recorded. The tape was subsequently offered for sale to newspapers, it was claimed.

The case is due to be heard in the High Court next Monday and the Princess has said that she is willing to go into the witness box and face cross-examination by Geoffrey Robertson, QC, counsel for the defendants and a prominent left-wing lawyer of Australian origin.

The case may still be settled out of court, but if it goes ahead to a full hearing the Princess will be first senior member of the Royal Family to take the witness stand since the late Edward VII gave

evidence in 1891 in support of a friend who had been accused of cheating at baccarat. In 1910, the future King George V went to court against a journalist who had accused him of bigamy, but did not himself give evidence in court.

In more recent cases of newspapers publishing unofficial, snatched or stolen photographs, the Queen has generally resorted to initiating action for breach of copyright, and the matter has been settled out of court, usually with the offending newspaper giving a substantial donation to charity. Friends of the Princess have been quoted as saying that she is determined to see the present case through.

The Princess lands in Tokyo this morning, where controversy has been raging over her decision not to visit the port city of Kobe, which was shattered by an earthquake last month.

Suggestions that such a visit was ruled out because it might upstage the Japanese Imperial Family's much-criticised and lacklustre interest in the disaster were firmly denied by the Princess's office, which insisted that the trip was never on, and even if it had been it would have been vetoed as placing too much of a strain on security in the stricken area.

Karachi gunmen kill 21

FROM REUTERS IN KARACHI

GUNMEN killed at least 21 people and wounded about 40 in an outbreak of violence in the southern Pakistani city of Karachi yesterday, police said.

Even of the victims were killed and 15 people were wounded when gunmen opened fire on a Kashmiri fun-raising camp in central Karachi. Police said gunmen later fired shots in a mosque in western Karachi, killing eight people and wounding 25. Two other people were killed in separate shootings in central Karachi.

The attack at the camp set up by a Kashmiri militant group, Harakatul Ansar, took place during a strike called by the Government to support a separatist revolt in Indian-ruled Kashmir. It was not clear whether the shooting was related to the strike or to ethnic violence.

Gangs to cash in on quake

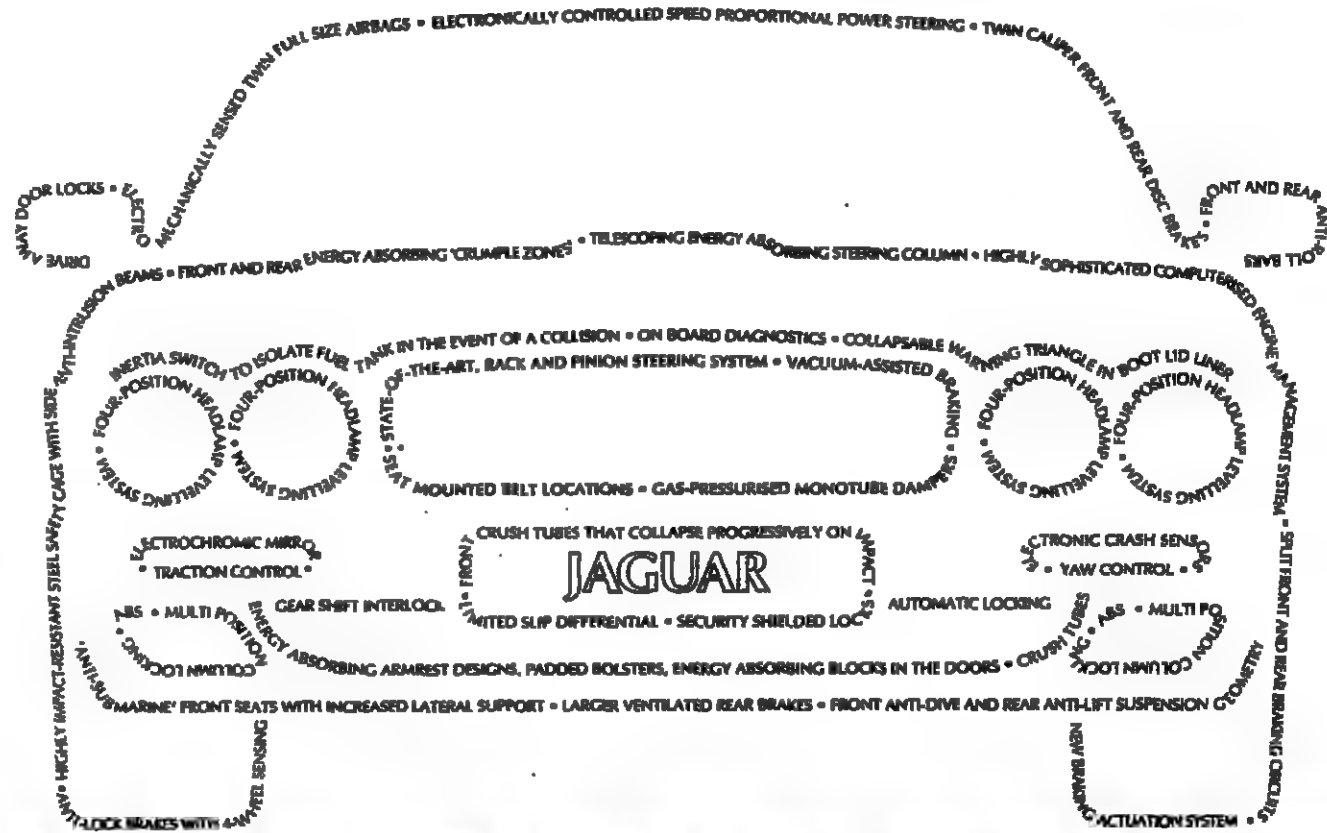
FROM REUTERS IN TOKYO

GANGSTERS could make up to 300 billion yen (£1.9 billion) from the rebuilding of Kobe after last month's earthquake, according to an expert on Japanese mob members.

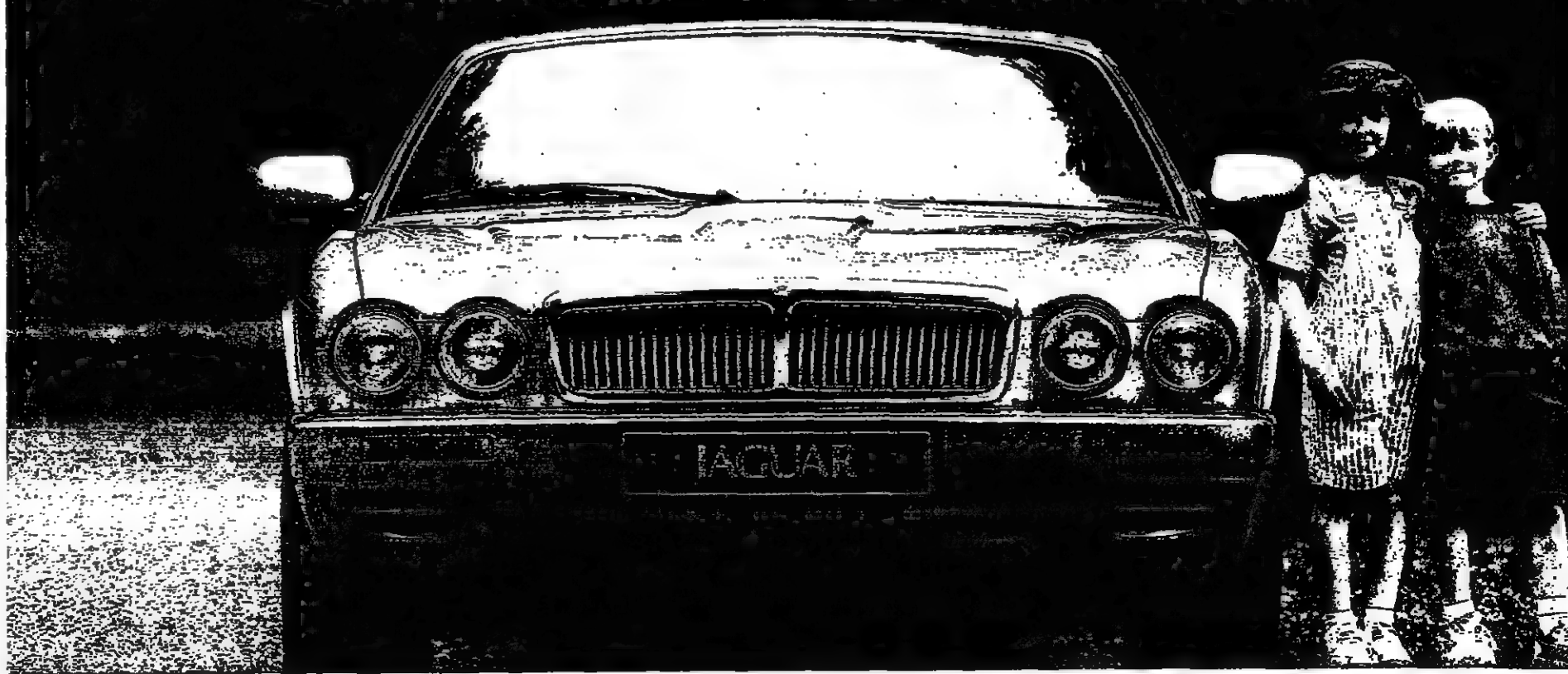
The estimate was made by David Kaplan, co-author of a book on Japan's gangs, and based on police figures for criminal involvement in the building industry. Gangsters are believed to control as many as 900 building firms.

The Governor of Hyogo prefecture, which includes Kobe, estimated the total cost of rebuilding the city at more than 10,000 billion yen. Police officials say that the gangs routinely take 1 to 3 per cent of the value of public works projects. The 300 billion yen estimate amounts to nearly a quarter of the Japanese underworld's estimated entire annual income.

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Menem evokes spirit of Evita in laser show to launch re-election campaign



Menem: perceived as guarantee of stability

FROM ANDRÉS WOLBERG-STOK
IN BUENOS AIRES

PRESIDENT MENEM, his popularity boosted by Argentinian fears of a Mexico-style crisis, has launched his re-election campaign with a huge rally that married laser displays and giant images of Evita Perón.

State television carried the prime-time Saturday night event live for an hour and a half from the Atlantic resort of Mar del Plata and put the attendance at 40,000. "Our beloved Argentina has become a serious, credible, trustworthy coun-

try... which is the centre of attention even for the greatest powers on Earth," said Señor Menem, who came to power in the summer of 1989, to the thunder of dozens of bass drums beaten by approving supporters.

The Peronist President is seeking a second term to consolidate what he calls Argentina's "economic miracle" of low inflation and rapid growth. He has increased his lead in the run-up to the May 14 vote since Mexico devalued its peso in December.

The shock waves that hit Latin America's emerging economies gave him an extra ten percentage points because voters see him as a guaran-

tee of stability, a poll published at the weekend showed. The survey, commissioned by the Government, gave Señor Menem 37.2 per cent of the vote in greater Buenos Aires — home to a third of Argentina's 33 million population — against 15.8 per cent for the Radical Party of his predecessor, Raúl Alfonsín. A centre-left front that had earlier emerged as a possible second force was trailing in third place with 14.2 per cent.

Bolstered by these figures, Señor Menem was exultant at the formal launch of his campaign, laughing, winking into state television cameras, and clapping his hands to the beat of the crowd's rendition of a

popular hit, "Matador". His vice-presidential candidate, Carlos Ruckauf, a former Interior Minister, used Señor Menem's handling of the fallout from the Mexican crisis to urge voters to back him again.

"Just now, when everything in the Americas shook, when it seemed a monster wave from Mexico was about to sweep it all away, once again the skipper managed to keep the boat on course," he roared. "Menem knows the way."

Señor Ruckauf also mentioned unemployment — at more than 12 per cent, one of the weaknesses of the "economic miracle" — and quoted Evita, the legendary first wife of the

party's founder, Juan Domingo Perón, who roused crowds in his support. "For us a jobless man is not part of statistics. He is, as Evita taught us, a gaping wound in our heart," Señor Ruckauf said.

Señor Menem, irked by the embarrassingly high unemployment figure published last month, has described it as misleading and says he wants the calculation method revised. "I have no doubt that the coming years too will be years of growth and development," he told the crowd. "Brothers and sisters, let's win! Let's win! Let's win!" he urged as a shower of fireworks lit up the night sky. (Reuters)



Perón: saw jobless as a wound in the heart

US and China list tariffs in row over property piracy

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON and Peking seemed last night to be on course for a trade war over intellectual property piracy in China, but a three-week grace period before tough sanctions come into effect on both sides bolstered hopes that a settlement could still be reached.

Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative who illustrated the problem in Washington at the weekend by holding up American goods and their fake Chinese counterparts, said that the problem ranged from computer software and games, to books, canned goods, breakfast cereals and millions of compact discs by such varied artists as Nirvana and Abba.

Mr Kantor said at the weekend that he would be happy to resume negotiations with China at any time but imposed 100 per cent tariffs on a list of imports of Chinese goods worth \$1.08 billion (£692 million), in the largest such action in American trade history. The list of items affected ranged from silk blouses to cellular telephones. "The Chinese know what they have to do," he said.

For its part, the Chinese Trade Ministry issued a list of sanctions it said it had to impose to defend China's "sovereignty and dignity". The list included tariffs on imports of American films, CDs, telephone exchange switches and cigarettes.

In Peking, however, it was business as usual, with a seller of pirated CDs displaying a selection that included every-

thing from Cliff Richard recordings to reggae and heavy metal. "Alan" was only one of five such salesmen hawking his illicit wares openly in one small area of central Peking yesterday. Police loitered in the background but made no effort to interfere.

Mr Kantor said in Washington that the American sanctions would take effect on February 26. Newt Gingrich, the Speaker of the House, immediately supported the Clinton Administration's decision, saying that Peking could not be allowed to cheat on intellectual property rights. "Trade cannot be a one-way street," he said. "They cannot cheat us and expect us to have our market open."

In recent weeks, American officials have been careful about their selection of goods for retaliation, avoiding products where the added costs might affect American businesses. China's biggest exports to the United States are toys and electronic goods.

The confrontation comes at a particularly sensitive stage in Sino-American relations as disputes have emerged over human rights and the export of weapons technology, and at a time when Deng Xiaoping, China's paramount leader, is reported to be seriously ill.

The US State Department issued a highly critical report last week in which it was said there had been no sign of improvement in human rights abuses in China in the past year, despite the conditional granting of most favoured

nation status to the Chinese eight months ago. The White House said yesterday that the policy of "intensive engagement" with China, which began 16 months ago, had not failed and the Clinton Administration intended to pursue the strategy.

If China's sanctions are implemented, they would have a severe effect on American investments, including plans for US car manufacturers to become involved in joint ventures with Chinese firms.

The Chinese claim that many American consumer goods will lose market share to competitors from Japan and Europe if there is a trade war. "There's a lot of bluff and bluster on both sides," one Western commercial attaché said. "We are still hopeful that both sides will pull back from the brink of a trade war that will be equally damaging to each."

The United States claims that dozens of Chinese factories and workshops, many of them state-owned and mainly in the southern province of Guangdong, make millions of CDs for foreign and Chinese markets. American officials have repeatedly called for the closure of 29 Chinese factories, many of which are state-owned.

An official at the Trade Ministry said Peking could not accept American pressure tactics, and expressed regret that Washington had ignored what he said were China's obvious and sincere efforts to protect intellectual property.



Mickey Kantor compares Chinese counterfeit computer software, left, with the genuine article at the weekend

Hong Kong pleads innocence to Kantor

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong authorities were stunned over the weekend by an American attack on their laxity in stopping Chinese pirated goods from being shipped into and through the colony.

Referring to Hong Kong and Taiwan, Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, said: "If they would refuse to allow those goods to come across their borders, then of course we would not be in this position."

Responding to the Hong Kong Government's appeal to

Peking and Washington to find a solution to the impending trade war, which officials in Hong Kong estimate will cost the colony \$470 million (£313 million) in lost re-export trade and up to 3,800 jobs, Mr Kantor said: "I would suggest to those who are concerned about the sanctions that they should work with us to stop this practice."

He noted that the Hong Kong and Taiwanese Governments have the full power to stop pirated goods from going across their borders to other

countries in South-East Asia. Stung by the charge, the colony's Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday: "We are surprised by these remarks. We are opposed to piracy and make many efforts at the border to stop it and make raids in the city on shops selling pirated goods."

Taipei: Taiwan last night urged its companies to invest outside China as businessmen devised schemes to dodge the

policy-making body on mainland affairs called for a meeting of businessmen tomorrow to discuss the worsening investment climate in China.

About 25,000 Taiwanese-invested businesses, with a capital estimated at between \$10 billion and \$20 billion, operate in mainland China, according to Peking's figures. Many of them export to the United States from factories in China's booming southern and eastern provinces, the areas expected to be hit hardest by the sanctions. (Reuters)

North's secretary tells of drug hell

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK



Hall: became a crack addict after her first lungful

FAWN HALL, the glamorous secretary who shredded documents for Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, has told for the first time how her life was left in tatters by the Iran-Contra scandal.

In a television interview due to be broadcast tonight, Ms Hall reveals that, after leaving the corridors of power in Washington, she became a crack addict who roamed the streets of Hollywood in search of drugs and "wanted to die".

The one-time model says that she was only a "recreational" drug user until she married Danny Sugarman, a writer on rock music who is best known for his biography of Jim Morrison, lead singer of The Doors, *No One Gets Out Of Here Alive*.

She started having serious problems with drugs after the couple went on honeymoon in Thailand in the opium-producing "golden triangle" in 1992. According to Ms Hall, she became "an instant addict" with her first lungful of crack, a purified form of cocaine.

"It's an intense rush," she told the syndicated television show *Inside Edition*. "I mean you have to literally run out of [crack] and be unable to get it anywhere, or you have to be physically so run down that you can no longer pick up the pipe, before you stop. And that's not a very pretty sight."

Ms Hall described with disgust how her descent into drug abuse turned her into a slovenly recluse, barely able to eat, watch television or even pick up the

telephone. Her addiction got so bad that she would sometimes pass out on the streets of Hollywood after spending the night looking for drugs.

"I hated myself so much because I couldn't even kill myself," she said. "I wanted to die, but I didn't have the courage to kill myself." She checked into the exclusive Hazlet Hazlet rehabilitation centre in Palm Beach, Florida, last year but even there only chance saved her from her addiction.

"I went out and tried to buy some crack on the street in West Palm Beach, and I didn't end up being able to purchase it because the guy ripped me off," she said. Ms Hall left the Hazlet centre after news of her presence was leaked to a tabloid magazine, and she is now living drug-free in Los Angeles. She views the Iran-Contra scandal as the turning point in her life, saying it sapped her of her strength and sense of self.

Although she once believed Colonel North was "as perfect as one human can get", she says her former boss, who recently ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the US Senate, now avoids all contact with her. "I consider it a betrayal, his not speaking with me," she said. "When he published his first book he didn't put me in the acknowledgement, but instead used the words 'loyal secretary' to describe his new secretary — that was very painful. It made me feel like a paper cup. I was useful at the time and now I'm not, and it hurts me terribly to say that."

Town sued over blacks shop ban

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK

A SMALL town in Georgia is being taken to court for violating the civil rights of local blacks after seeking an unorthodox solution to its shopping problem.

The authorities in Union Point, which has a population of 1,750, issued a list of 21 people suspected, but not convicted, of stealing from shops as petty crime soared in the run-up to Christmas.

The 21 were banned from more than two dozen shops and other businesses, including banks, in the main street. Police delivered a terse notice to each suspect: "You are not to enter said premises. If you do so, you will be charged with criminal trespass and/or disorderly conduct."

The idea had the blessing of all the local elders, but civil rights activists were outraged, when they found that all those listed — 19 men and two women — were black. The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a lawsuit against the town.

Clinton budget will not reduce deficit

BY TOM RHODES

PRESIDENT Clinton will today take the political gamble of unveiling a budget that does nothing to cut the burgeoning deficit he had promised to halve by 1996.

Two years after proposing what he described as the "largest deficit reduction package in history", Mr Clinton's \$1,600 billion (£1,020 billion) package will control but make no effort to cut a projected \$196.7 billion shortfall by 1996.

Before the proposal had been sent to Capitol Hill, it was already under attack yesterday from Republicans and conservative Democrats who criticised the White House for doing too little.

"If this [the budget] was Evel Knievel trying to fly over the Snake Canyon, he would fly over the edge of the cliff and he might fly a little while," said John Kasich, the Republican chairman of the House budget committee, "but he would not make it to the ledge on the other side."

Gene Taylor, a Democrat from Mississippi, described the proposal as "an insult to

all those people who walked the plank and lost their jobs supporting the budget two years ago."

The President is thought to have wanted to make deeper cuts but was persuaded that this would merely play into the hands of the Republican majority in Congress, which could use any savings for tax cuts outlined in the *Contract with America*.

"If the Republicans want to do more deficit reduction, let them come forward with their own ideas," one White House official said. "Why make it easy for them? In the current political climate, we don't have control."

The proposed budget contains \$140 billion in spending cuts over five years, more than a third of which will help pay for his middle-class tax cuts. An additional \$80 billion will come from reductions in defence spending, the merging of 271 health, environmental and training programmes, and an assortment of other cuts.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18

CIA 'sold bombs to Iraq'

Washington: The CIA was involved in the undercover sale of sophisticated bombs to Baghdad at a time in the mid-1980s when the Reagan Administration claimed neutrality in the war between Iran and Iraq (Tom Rhodes writes). Howard Teicher, a former Middle East specialist at the National Security Council, claims US intelligence secretly authorised Carlos Cardoen, a Chilean arms dealer, to sell cluster bombs to the Iraqi regime.

Mr Teicher has described meetings that he attended in which William Casey, then CIA director and his deputy, Robert Gates, had decided that Iraq needed the bombs.

Peru peace talks resume

Quito: Talks to resolve a border dispute between Peru and Ecuador resumed yesterday amid reports that troops from the two sides had clashed again. The skirmishes, which occurred on Saturday, were described as of "lower intensity" than previous fighting and there were no reports of casualties. The attacks came a day after negotiators from Peru and Ecuador, meeting in Brazil, announced that they had reached agreement in principle to end the border conflict and set up a demilitarised zone. (AFP)

Spain prays for rain

Barcelona: Thousands of Spaniards attended prayers at the weekend to call for rain (Edward Owen writes). The drought is one of the worst this century and has caused the cancellation of the Alpine Skiing Championships in the Sierra Nevada. Cardinal Marcelo González Martín, the Primate of Spain, led 4,000 people round all the statues of saints in Toledo as they prayed for divine intervention.

Extra men in South Korea

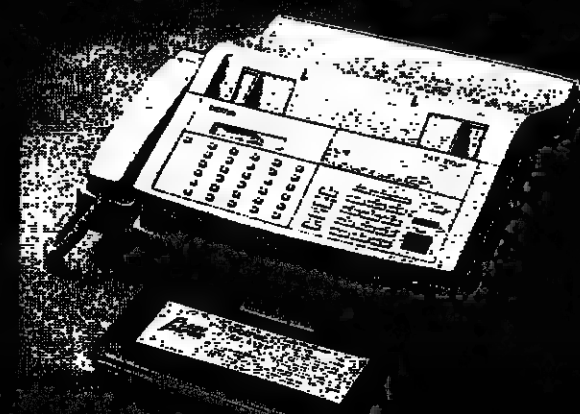
Seoul: Men will outnumber women in South Korea by 21.7 per cent from 1999 because of the widespread abortion of female fetuses, the Government said. A campaign was launched last week by 40,000 doctors to end unnecessary prenatal tests. Ultra-sound screening is often used in South Korea to identify the gender of embryos. (AFP)

Dog fight

Jerusalem: A poodle attacked its owner's assailant during a fight between two neighbours in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv, caused when the dog soiled the next-door garden. The assailant, aged about 60, fell, crushing the animal to death, then had a heart attack. (Reuters)

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America tells Nato to consult Russia on expansion east

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND RICHARD CLEROUX IN TORONTO

AMERICA wants Nato to form a special working relationship with Russia to avoid any misunderstandings with the Kremlin, William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, suggested yesterday that a standing consultative commission should be set up to keep Moscow informed of moves by the transatlantic alliance to extend its membership to Eastern Europe.

Mr Perry said at the annual Wehrkunde security policy conference in Munich of defence ministers and military officials: "Whatever we decide, Nato is committed to keeping Russia fully informed. There will be no surprises and Russia will not be isolated."

He said that the commission could also be the forum for discussing European security or consultations on Bosnia-Herzegovina. Mr Perry's call

for a special forum with Russia is a response to increasing fears in Moscow that Nato is aiming to expand its membership eastwards irreversibly expressed by President Yeltsin.

Mr Perry insisted that Moscow should not feel threatened by the move. "Russia should judge Nato by what it is now, not through the prism of the Cold War," he said.

He made it clear that Nato would expand to include former Warsaw Pact countries but he said now members must adhere to the alliance's basic principles of collective defence, democracy, consensus and co-operative security.

Mr Perry and Willy Claes, the Nato Secretary-General, criticised Moscow's use of "overwhelming" military force against the rebels in Che-

chenia seeking independence from Russia. However, they said relations with Moscow had not been damaged irreversibly. "It's a bit too early to pass final judgment on this country," Mr Claes said.

Mr Perry also issued a warning that Nato had to find new cohesiveness after winning the Cold War. He said America was showing its commitment to Europe by keeping 100,000 troops on the Continent. He said: "You could say we were stuck with each other, but today we are not stuck together."

On the economic front, Russia got a stern warning from the West at the weekend. Finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven leading industrialised countries concluded two days of meetings in Toronto with a demand that Russia achieve faster progress in transforming itself into a market economy to the satisfaction of the International Monetary Fund.

Otherwise, they said, they would hesitate to arrange further restructuring of Russia's debt and future emergency funding might not be forthcoming.

Several of the participating countries complained about a fear that Russia could be victimised by runaway inflation since the collapse of the rouble last autumn.

Robert Rubin, the American Treasury Secretary, said that Russia's economic experts would be invited to an April meeting of G7 finance ministers in Washington and asked to explain what progress has been made on the issue. Russia is expected to ask for G7 membership when it meets in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in June.

Most of the two-day meeting was spent studying the bailout of the Mexican economy. The tough words directed at Russia came as a surprise at the end of the meeting. The host, Paul Martin, the Canadian Finance Minister, said the meeting also expressed concern about the war in Chechnia.



Grozny residents are continuing to flee their beleaguered and devastated city with as many of their possessions as they can carry

Rebel villagers celebrate enemy pilot's lonely death

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN NOVA TAGA

THE Russian pilot was dying. A major, his jet had been hit by machinegun fire during a ground attack mission south of Grozny. Though he had ejected, the aircraft was too low to allow his parachute to open. He lay in the mud still strapped into his seat, fatally injured, as the jubilant Chechens approached.

"His legs were broken and when we took off his helmet his face was full of blood," a witness said. "He said, 'I have a home and son', and died."

Poignant words, but ones that were met with little sympathy by the Chechens, who daily are losing fathers, sons and homes as the result of Russian air attacks in the rebel Caucasus republic.

The field across which the Russian Sukhoi-27 jet had scattered itself was filled with civilians yesterday, searching exuberantly through the wreckage for souvenirs despite heavy fighting close by. People filled their pockets with engine parts and electronics, while one old man

arrived in a lorry on which he loaded part of a wing. It was a victory of sorts, in a time where victories are few and small. The past two days have seen a succession of setbacks to the embattled Chechen fighters who, after their initial successes against the Russian forces, are being pushed back from their defensive lines.

On Friday afternoon, a Russian armoured thrust, backed by helicopters and jets, cut the crucial southeastern access route to Grozny, the main supply road to the Chechens holding out in the city. Though the indigenous soldiers have counter-attacked fiercely for the past two nights, they have failed to dislodge the Russian tanks from the area and have suffered heavy casualties to cluster bombs and shellfire in the open plain on which the battle is taking place.

As Russian firepower spreads into rural areas, so too have the Chechens lost ground in Grozny as their fighters turn to face the threat

from the south of the city as well as the north. Russian forces have crossed the river Sunza, until a few days ago the front line, and are infiltrating Chechen lines in a number of areas. "We have not got more than a couple of thousand fighters left in Grozny," one commander said. The Russians have elements from three divisions, including hundreds of armoured personnel carriers and tanks.

However, the Chechens' willingness to fight on against the odds seems almost unaffected. The optimism of the early days may have gone, replaced with a grim acknowledgement of the reality of fighting an enemy many times more powerful. "The Russians have always won their battles through their massed men and machines, rather than skill," said Makharip, a Chechen fighter. "Perhaps they will here too. But victory is about more than taking everything in fighting, and we Chechen people will see this to the end."

Yeltsin's Chechen allies condemn 'barbaric' troops

BY RICHARD BEESTON

RUSSIAN forces laid down a heavy artillery bombardment on the Chechen capital, Grozny, yesterday and a large armoured column moved towards the city.

However, the Kremlin's attempts to install a pro-Russian government received a serious setback when Moscow's Chechen allies accused Russian forces of serious human rights violations against local civilians. In a potentially damaging statement released at the weekend, the Provisional Council, a group armed and funded by Moscow, demanded that the Russian authorities crack down on their ill-disciplined troops, who are accused of killing civilians and looting property.

The Provisional Council was established last year in opposition to General Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen separatist leader whose forces still control large parts of the country and about one third of Grozny. His supporters proved at the weekend that they are still far from beaten when they shot down their first Russian warplane, a Su-25.

The Kremlin had hoped that the organisation would become the basis for a future pro-Russian government, which President Yeltsin would like to install as soon as possible in the breakaway republic.

The man heading the organisation is Nikolai Semynov, the former Communist Party chief in Grozny, who is positioning himself to become the post-war governor general of Chechnia. He has appointed three anti-Dudayev deputies: Salambek Khadzhiyev, the former Soviet Oil Minister; Umar Avutkhanov, the lead-

er of the Provisional Council; and Beslan Gantemirov.

However, the Kremlin's plans now appear to be jeopardised as the group has accused Russian troops of "barbaric, senseless and cruel bombardments and shelling of the living quarters of Grozny, inhabited by peaceful citizens who are unable to leave the city."

The statement, citing numerous witnesses, said: "It is stated that there are cases of looting, robbery, unprovoked killings of civilian population. These practices provoke dozens of Chechens who were hitherto loyal to federal bodies of power to take up arms."

Human rights investigators have claimed that some of the abuses took place at a Russian detention facility at the regional military headquarters in Mordok. Russian soldiers have also been accused of looting property and of at least one incident of robbing and raping a Russian civilian.

Even before the public criticism, most experts on Chechnia predicted that a pro-Russian government would have little popular support in the country and would be widely regarded as a puppet regime staffed by "collaborators". Even President Yeltsin's own Chechen adviser, Doku Zavgayev, recently predicted that the interim Government was doomed to fail.

"If Moscow relies on them it is a profound mistake, which will lead to a new spiral in the tragedy of this republic," he said. "Starting with Khadzhiyev, they are all impostors, who do not have a milligram of legitimacy. They have no authority whatsoever in the Chechen republic."

Kirghizia elects first democratic parliament

Moscow: One of the most remote and backward of the former Soviet republics had its first real taste of democracy yesterday, when voters in the Central Asian state of Kirghizia took part in their first post-independence elections (Richard Beeston writes).

Thousands of Kirghiz turned out to cast their ballots for a 35-seat legislative assembly, which will become the country's first democratic parliament. Other candidates are standing for a 70-seat People's Assembly, which will meet only twice a year.

International monitors reported that polling was conducted without any major complications, and the electoral commission said that 62 per cent of the electorate had cast their ballots, well in excess of the 50 per cent turnout needed to validate the elections.

President Akayev, whose pro-reform policies have

earned him the respect and financial support of the West, said he hoped that democrats would prevail and help to support his free-market policies over the more conservative communist candidates.

He conceded, however, that with more than 1,000 candidates contesting the vote, many local professionals and businessmen running as independents, it was unlikely that any one party would dominate parliament. "Without doubt this is going to be a transitional parliament because I am sure that we are still not grown up enough to have a professional parliament," said the former physicist, who urged voters to turn out again for run-off elections on February 19.

Kirghizia, sandwiched between China, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, has emerged as one of the most progressive of the former Central Asian republics.

Jospin begins battle to stop Balladur bandwagon

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS



Jospin yesterday: back from the political wilderness

HOPE mixed with weary relief yesterday as the French Socialist Party elected Lionel Jospin as its presidential candidate. President Mitterrand's old party rallied behind the professorial M Jospin, whose victory in a primary contest on Friday finally filled the vacuum left by the abdication last December of Jacques Delors.

Basking in a standing ovation in Paris that sealed an astonishing return from the political wilderness, M Jospin promised to dismantle the aura of invincibility that sur-

rounds Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister. "M Balladur is going to have to understand what an electoral campaign is about in a democratic and turbulent country like France," he said. "He would like us to examine the polls and then appoint him to the Elysee Palace. Well, even God couldn't do that for him."

Eleven weeks before the first round of the elections, the former protégé of M Mitterrand and Cabinet minister of the late 1980s faces a daunting struggle to close the gap

between him and M Balladur and Jacques Chirac, his Gaullist rival who is running a distant second in opinion polls.

An austere thinker with a career as a diplomat and teacher, the tall, grey-haired M Jospin, 57, lacks charisma and any popular touch. He holds the rank of minister in the Foreign Office, but has spent most of his non-political life detached as a university lecturer. He has held no parliamentary seat since his defeat in 1993 as member for

the Haute-Garonne. In his favour is an image of rectitude in a party sapped by scandals from its years in power. His prime goal will be to survive into the second-round run-off on May 7 by rallying the voters still loyal to the traditional Left. Although a fairly orthodox leftwinger by the standards of modern German or British social democrats, M Jospin is a moderate in a party which, under Henri Emmanuelli, has swung back to orthodox left-wing doctrines. He is more popular than M

Emmanuelli, but a poll yesterday indicated that in the present state of play, M Balladur would walk over him by 64 per cent to 36 per cent.

A healthy run by M Jospin in fact would suit M Balladur because it would dispose of M Chirac, averting the danger of a fratricidal duel, and return the campaign to the classical Left-Right combat that has ruled French political contests. M Chirac has already thrown down the gauntlet to M Jospin by posing as the champion of a left-wing Gaullism.

Dutch return home as flood threat recedes

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN THE HAGUE

TENS of thousands of Dutch citizens began a peaceful and orderly trek home as the level of the swollen rivers that had threatened their homes dropped below danger level and the dykes that had kept the waters at bay held firm.

It was a happy ending to the biggest evacuation The Netherlands has seen since the Second World War. During a 60-hour period 250,000 people had been moved from their homes. It took another 48

hours to send them back and no incident of any gravity marked the process.

Yesterday 170,000 people returned to the polders, which from Monday to Saturday had been menaced by rising floodwaters that had threatened to overwhelm the dykes.

The task of assessing the cost of the evacuation has begun, with the bill for business and industry put at one to 1.5 billion guilders (£373 million to £557 million). (AFP)

Croat deal puts more pressure on Serbs

BY MICHAEL EVANS

MUSLIMS and Croats in Bosnia reached an agreement yesterday that will help to strengthen their alliance and put further pressure on the Serbs for a long-term peace deal.

At the initiative of the United States, an international arbitrator is to be appointed to resolve disputes arising from the joint federation which the Muslims and Croats signed in March last year, ending the fighting in central and southern Bosnia.

A new system of arbitration was included in a nine-point plan negotiated by the Americans and other members of the five-nation Contact Group, including Britain, during a meeting in Munich. The agreement was reached after the Contact Group had become increasingly worried that the federation might break up, leading to a renewal of fighting between the Muslims and Croats.

There has also been speculation recently that the Government of Croatia may be seeking direct contact with the Serbian authorities to decide the fate of Bosnia-Herzegovina. However, after yesterday's successful meeting in Munich, Mate Granic, the Croatian Foreign Minister, pledged his Government's support for the Muslim-Croat federation.

Sarajevo recalls market carnage

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO yesterday marked the first anniversary of an explosion which echoed throughout the world: the shelling of the Markale market, where 68 Sarajevans died. The horrendous carnage that day transformed the lives of a population which had been living under siege and attack for nearly two years.

"It was the day the world finally said 'enough'," said Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Shadbolt, the military assistant to the then United Nations Commander, Lieutenant-General Michael Rose. Four days later Nato issued an ultimatum to the Bosnian Serbs: pull back your artillery, mortars and tanks, or be bombed by the Alliance.

Nowadays the marketplace again overflows with fresh fruit, vegetables and meat. Crowded trams roll through what were the killing zone of "Snipers' Alley". At night, virtually every home in Sarajevo is ablaze with lights powered by rationed electricity after months of darkness.

But Davor and Slobodanka Rehar will not forget 5 February 1994. They still keep the coffee jars their 21-year-old son Igor used to store his savings for a trip to the United States - his young life's dream. Igor Rehar and 67 other Sarajevans died from shrapnel wounds. When the shell exploded, Mr Rehar, 45, a noted local painter, dashed down the six flights of stairs in his building and out into the grisly aftermath of the explo-

sion. Six days a week his son sold small cups of strong instant coffee at the marketplace, across the street from his house. "I personally walked over the dead bodies, turning them over, looking for Igor," he said. He found his son later in the city mortuary.

"For me it is horrible to think about, as it is for everyone who knew someone killed by the shell. But for other people life is better because of what happened... There is a little light in their world," Mr Rehar said.

While there is nearly unanimous agreement that the solitary shell triggered the sequence of events which brought improvements to life for Sarajevans, the question of who fired it remains unresolved. The Bosnian Government and many international officials pointed the finger at the Serbs. The Serbs, and privately some international officials, blamed the Bosnian Government. They alleged - as they had after several earlier massacres - that the Bosnian Army had shelled its own people to gain Western sympathy and draw Nato into a war with the Serbs.

At the time, General Rose and other UN officials would only say that their investigation into the firing point of the shell had been inconclusive. Colonel Shadbolt said: "It was just an impossible shot. It was more cock-up than conspiracy." He added: "The jury is still out. I wish I knew who did it, but I doubt we ever will."

New Image Laser Eye Centre provides help for those with short-sight

The experience and knowledge of leading eye surgeons from around the world, combined with the latest laser technology can now give people with short sight an alternative to spectacles and contact lenses.

Over 100,000 people now find themselves less dependent on spectacles and contact lenses so that they can perform everyday activities with total confidence, thanks to a proven treatment that can correct the problem of myopia or short-sightedness.

The New Image Laser Eye Centre in London is equipped with the Summit OmniMed Laser System - the only laser to have been recommended for approval by the American FDA Ophthalmic Panel.

A trained clinical optometrist and consultant ophthalmologist conduct a thorough, free examination and counselling to ensure patients are suitable for treatment and offered the ultimate in eye care.

The treatment, PRK (Photorefractive Keratectomy), is clinically precise using the computer controlled laser to skillfully reshape the cornea. The treatment itself takes up to 30 seconds and is painless. However, you may need follow up treatment and experience some discomfort afterwards.

"We can currently treat people with mild to moderate levels of short-sight", said clinical optometrist Sue Paul, "Anyone over the age of 21 with a stable prescription and healthy eyes can usually be treated. There is no upper age limit and we have achieved a high level of success. During the



Eye examinations of the highest standard

free consultation, we discuss thoroughly with each client how the treatment actually works and could benefit them. We assess their suitability and explain the comprehensive, all-inclusive after care programme."

FREE OPEN MEETINGS
New Image Laser Eye Centre are holding an informal, free Open Meeting on Wednesday 8th February at 5.30pm to explain the successful development of laser eye treatment.

NewImage
LASER EYE CENTRE

Laser Treatment for Short Sight

Now, in London, you can have normal sight without glasses or contact lenses.
• It's fast • It's safe • It's convenient • It's proven • And it's affordable

0171-929 2020

New Image Laser Eye Centre, Plantation House, 31 - 35, Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 3DX.
Clinics also at Edinburgh 0131 220 2040 and Birmingham 0121 711 2040

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Evening _____

Laurel Boutique

A MEMBER OF THE ESCADA GROUP

would like to invite gentlemen to a
Valentine's Day Special Event
week commencing Monday 6th February with a
Special Gentleman's Evening
on Thursday 9th February, 6pm-9pm at Laurel Boutique,
105 New Bond St., W.1

Select a perfect gift from the Spring/Summer collections of designer ladieswear and accessories with personal expert advice.
Purchase a gift and you have the chance to win a romantic dinner for two at the Dorchester Club.
Chauffeur limousine service courtesy of Brunel Carriage on Valentine's evening.
GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE

ARTS
THE WEEK
AHEAD

VISUAL ART

The "lost" Caravaggio discovered in an Irish Jesuit college goes on display at the National Gallery in London

ON SHOW: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



POP

Bryan Ferry, glossiest of the postmodern crooners, coasts into town at the Hammersmith Apollo

GIG: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



THEATRE

In bed with Mr and Mrs Merton: clean pyjamas ready for *The Live Bed Show* at the Garrick

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



MUSIC

In Manchester, leading young British composer George Benjamin takes the Halle through his new orchestral work

CONCERT: Thursday
REVIEW: Monday

LONDON

FULL MOON: Jon Strickland plays the hero of Caravaggio's powerful and haunting portrait of a young man, set in the staterooms of North Wales. Helena Kaut-Horowitz's *Theater* production comes to London after a sell-out tour.

Young Vic, The Old Vic (0171-928 5353). Preview tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Wed, until March 4. £5.

LUNCHTIME IN THE CITY: Trust yourself to an hour's break with a series of concerts featuring the work of 20th-century British composers. Barry Tuckwell directs the City of London Sinfonia for a programme today of Holst, Alexander Goody and Benjamin Britten. St Bartholomew's Church, West Smithfield, EC1 (0171-480-7743). Today, 1pm. Free admission.

ALL YOU LIKE IT: The week offers the last chance to see Chaz Bono's all-star Shakespeare. Opens, inversive, endearing, funny, with Adrian Lester as a castrating Rosalind. Deon Donnell directs. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Tonight, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Bernard Hill plays Eddie, the over-protective dad of a young boy. Tractor's production of *Milk & Honey*.

THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dispossessed Lord Ogilvy and directs a strong cast in this good-humoured comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love. Cushman, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm.

CHERRYVALE: Incoming production from Theatre Fusion of Sandberg's play for three characters, who, now played and embodied by three actresses, tell the story of a woman's life. 11 Farnborough Rd, W11 (0171-229 0708). Preview tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Wed, until Feb 26.

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EASTER: Sandberg's drama of shame, self-pity, paranoia, claustrophobia in nature and the freedom of the imagination. Koda Miki directs. Pils, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-498 8881). Tonight, Thurs, 7.15pm; mats Thurs, 2pm.

IN FEVER PITCH: This one-man show, adapted from Nick Hornby's best-selling account of a lifelong obsession with Arsenal FC, Stephen North takes us through 45 minutes of his life. Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-330 2132). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6.15 and 8.30pm.

NEW RELEASES

I LIKE IT LIKE THAT (15): Chastel's dream of a woman's life from debutant director David Mamet, with Lauren Velez and Jan Sade. MCA Home Video (0171-498 8881). (0171-498 8881).

LEON (18): Precious child actress under a woman's wing. Stuck, empty trailer shot in New York by French director Luc Besson. W11, Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman. MCA Home Video (0171-498 8881).

THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE (18): Proles and chicanery of a turn-of-the-century saloon. Overdone house food scenes, with Anthony Hopkins, Richard Gere, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker. MCA Home Video (0171-498 8881).

STRAN DOGS (18): Reviled of Sam Peckinpah's notorious rural horror film, filmed in England with Dustin Hoffman and Susan George. A still better. MCA Home Video (0171-498 8881).

CURRENT: BARCELONA (12): With Sillman's successor to *Barcelona*, an aggressive blend of romance, politics and disco dancing, set during the early 1980s. With Tanya Roberts and Chris Egan. MCA Home Video (0171-498 8881).

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

from the Bridge: A co-production with Birmingham Rep, when 4 transfers in March. With Charlotte Cornwell, Joseph Marston and Ivan Kyo.

Old Vic, King Street (0171-928 5353). Preview tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

EDINBURGH: The Edinburgh Contemporary Arts Trust launches the first of a series of European exchanges. ECAT has commissioned two new works from Scottish-based composers — Marina Adamis and Simon Adamis — for this event, which will tour to Germany.

Glasgow's Hall, Clark Street (011-555 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

SPRINGFIELD: Real-life partners Aron Rodgers and Elizabeth Gentry bring the love affair of C.S. Lewis and the American poet Joy Kilmer back to the stage in William Nicholson's award-winning play *Shakespeare's*.

Shakespeare's (011-555 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House of the Dead (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm.

CHERRYVALE: Incoming production from Theatre Fusion of Sandberg's play for three characters, who, now played and embodied by three actresses, tell the story of a woman's life. 11 Farnborough Rd, W11 (0171-229 0708). Preview tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Wed, until Feb 26.

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REGIONAL THEATRE: Urban despair in Manchester; epic revenge in Glasgow

LEICESTER: Opening night for the first of two new Phyllis Naylor plays will see the spring. Disappeared reconstructs the events that led up to a woman's disappearance after meeting a stranger in a rundown New York bar. It is a tale — or a coincidence? — of a woman's life. Leicester Studio, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). Tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Sat, 3.15pm. Live Feb 26.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-438 4141). British Museum: Chinese Arts and Jewellery. Museum Gallery (0171-438 1555). Contrast: Frank Dobson: Sculpture 1916-1954 (0171-438 2255). Casella Council: Furniture Today: Design and Craft (0171-278 7700). National Gallery: The Age of Elton (0171-938 3571). National Portrait Gallery: Christina Rossetti, final week (0171-308 0055). Richard Flin: Fossilized Saturn (0171-308 0055). Royal Academy: The Revival of the Palladian Style (0171-438 7430). Sculpture: May Day (0171-438 6075). Tate: New Displays 1995 (0171-887 8000). V & A: Nehru Gallery: Sculpture (0171-438 8500). Wallace Collection: Works in a Box. Wallace Collection (0171-322 7888).

EDINBURGH: The Edinburgh Contemporary Arts Trust launches the first of a series of European exchanges. ECAT has commissioned two new works from Scottish-based composers — Marina Adamis and Simon Adamis — for this event, which will tour to Germany.

Glasgow's Hall, Clark Street (011-555 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

SPRINGFIELD: Real-life partners Aron Rodgers and Elizabeth Gentry bring the love affair of C.S. Lewis and the American poet Joy Kilmer back to the stage in William Nicholson's award-winning play *Shakespeare's*.

Shakespeare's (011-555 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House of the Dead (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm.

CHERRYVALE: Incoming production from Theatre Fusion of Sandberg's play for three characters, who, now played and embodied by three actresses, tell the story of a woman's life. 11 Farnborough Rd, W11 (0171-229 0708). Preview tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Wed, until Feb 26.

DANGEROUS CORNER: Keith Bates directs, an excellent cast in Presley's psychological thriller about the grey areas in people's lives is a winner (not to be missed). Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-309 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 2pm. Until Mar 11.

EASTER: Sandberg's drama of shame, self-pity, paranoia, claustrophobia in nature and the freedom of the imagination. Koda Miki directs. Pils, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-498 8881). Tonight, Thurs, 7.15pm; mats Thurs, 2pm.

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ARTS
TUESDAY TO
FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

FILM

The true story of
matricide by two New
Zealand schoolgirls is
told in the gripping
Heavenly Creatures
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

DANCE

Bunty Mathias teams
up with Jazzie B
and the Duke Quartet
for an eclectic night
on the South Bank
SHOW: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

OPERA

Having conquered
Covent Garden as
Violetta, Angela
Gheorghiu returns
as Mimi in *Bohème*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

BOOKS

Hunter S. Thompson
brings his own quirky
insights to bear on
Bill Clinton's 1992
presidential campaign
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

Heroes stumbling to slaughter

OPERA: Richard
Morrison reviews
a stunning revival
at the Coliseum
of *King Priam*. Sir
Michael Tippett's
Trojan War epic

Tippett says that his 1962
Trojan opera is about "the
mysterious nature of
human choice". That's one
way of describing it. Another would
be to say that the road to hell is
paved with good intentions. For in
King Priam there are no villains
and plenty of heroes — yet this epic
work ends as comfortably as
anything in opera.

Kings, warriors, parents and
lovers have all made decisions that
they hope will enhance what they
cherish. But at each turn they are
thwarted, as in some dark Hardy
novel. Malignant fate brings about
the very opposite of their desires.
Priam's beloved Troy is annihilated;
his sons slaughtered. But the
Greeks, too, have lost their finest
warriors. Bloodlust has triumphed,
not mankind; and ignorant armies
clash by night.

And when people ask, as they do
throughout this opera in one way or
another, "what's it all for?", there is
no answer. Paris's love for Helen?
This, the "cause" of the war, is
marginalised in the opera. Just as
A.J.P. Taylor's *The Origins of the
Second World War* (which came out
a year before Tippett's opera) pro-
vocatively pointed to a string of
miscalculations as the cause of the
greatest of modern conflicts, so *King
Priam* does much the same for the
greatest of ancient conflicts.

Yet Tippett, despite his avowed
pacifism, laudably avoids the easy
path of satirising armed conflict.
This is no *Oh! What a Lovely
Trojan War*. His libretto bristles
with courageous words and deeds
(significantly, the mean trick of the
wooden horse is omitted), just as his
score rings harshly to the sounds of
bloodstained glory: the spectacular
fanfares that echo from the opera's
opening bars onwards, for instance,



Andrew Shore sings the title-role of Tippett's *King Priam*, in Tom Cairns's staging at English National Opera: his portrayal has the tragic stature of the greatest Lear

or Achilles's bloodcurdling war-cry
at Act II's conclusion. Tippett the
man may be repulsed by war;
Tippett the composer is fascinated.

This moral complexity is what
makes *King Priam* such good
music-drama, especially in a stag-
ing as cogent as that devised by Tom
Cairns for Opera North four years
ago, and now revived by English
National Opera with an even stronger
cast conducted with consum-
mate authority by Paul Daniel.
Cairns stages the work in a series of

abstract sets, replete with "symbols"
(glowing totem-pole; giant, up-
turned vase) that mean as much as
you want them to mean. His
characters often assume the stylised
gestures of Greek-urn figures. But
there is no self-consciousness about
this, and when they are hit by
hammer-blows of misfortune they
react with affecting poignancy.

One thinks particularly of the
open-mouthed, stunned horror that
Andrew Shore's Priam displays as
yet another unforeseen consequence

sends him reeling into madness. But
then, Shore's performance is out-
standing in every respect. In fact his
Priam has the tragic stature of the
greatest Lear, and for much the
same reasons.

Around him all is solid: Christo-
pher Booth-Jones's stirring, action-
man Hector; Christopher Ventris's
Paris, desperate to regain his
father's love; a marvellously ardent
Achilles from Thomas Randle, par-
ticularly in the celebrated "guitar"
lament and the strange "toast to

death" with Priam (the opera's only
moments of real gentleness); and
Janice Cairns and Susan Bickley
strong and baleful as those stoic
wives Hecuba and Andromache.

Jean Rigby looked and sounded a
bit sullen for a face that launched a
thousand ships, though her long
aria was well sustained. But Mark
Curtis was admirably seedy as
Hermes, the "divine go-between"
(one of Tippett's less happy lines).
Yes, the opera has weaknesses.
Despite the best endeavours of

Ethna Robinson, Richard Van Allan
and John Daszak, one tires of those
Brechtian characters who insist on
coming forward between every
scene to tell us what we should be
thinking. When all this alienation is
extended to a chorus of wedding
guests in modern dress, so much the
worse. But Cairns's fluid, gripping
production mostly sweeps all before
it. The opera is a wonderful overture
to Tippett's 90th-birthday festival;
and Sir Michael was present on
Friday to enjoy the riot of applause.

OVERTURES

Prized in the valleys

SURPRISE winner of the
£75,000 Prudential Award for
the Arts, presented last night
at the Olivier Theatre, was the
Vale of Glamorgan Music
Festival, based at St Donats,
Bridgend. The small Welsh
festival beat off challenges
from the West Yorkshire Play-
house, the BFI Production
Board, Camden Arts Centre,
Dance Umbrella and
Glyndebourne Education. The
judges, chaired by Sir Bob
Scott, praised the Vale of
Glamorgan Festival for its
"programming, coupled with
the quality of the perfor-
mances and the presence of
the composers themselves at
the festival." Sir Michael
Tippett has been given this
year's Prudential/Arts Coun-
cil Award.

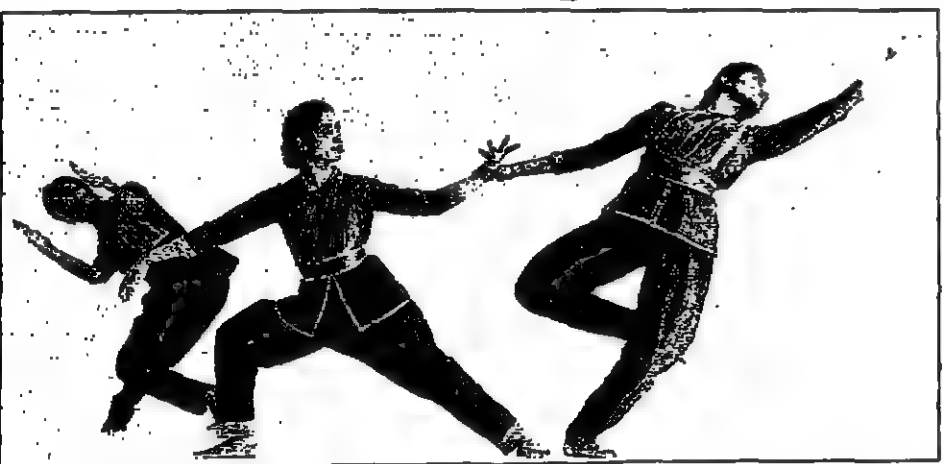
ALL change in West End
theatreland. Edward Albee's
Three Tall Women, already
extending its sell-out run at
Wyndham's until April 22,
may return in the autumn —
with its starry cast headed by
Maggie Smith and Frances
de la Tour — for a further
limited West End run, though
not necessarily at Wyndham's.
Wyndham's, meanwhile, may
host the Greenwich produc-
tion of *The Duchess of Malfi*
with Simon Russell Beale
and Juliet Stevenson. That
should transfer for six weeks
from April 24.

American dramatist Tracy
Letts's *Killer Joe* moves to the
Vaudeville on February 16 for
an initial run of six weeks,
in what is the first Bush trans-
fer to the West End since *Beau-
tiful Thing* last autumn. The
violent play opened to rave
reviews last month in the
wake of the no-less-violent
premiere of Sarah Kane's
Blasted. But whereas *Killer
Joe*'s onward life is now
assured, that of *Blasted* is not:
idle speculation about a five-
week run at the Ambassadors
of the controversial Royal
Court play looks misplaced.

THE late, great drummer
Buddy Rich is the most recent
recipient of that dubious hon-
our, the tribute album. But
Burning for Buddy, released
this week by East West,
should hold genuine interest
for fans of the American
maestro, who died in 1987.
Produced by Neil Peart of the
Canadian rock band Rush, it
features such diverse guest
drummers as Max Roach, Bill
Bruford and Bill Cobham in
performances with the Buddy
Rich Big Band.

NOW that his commercial
standing has been revived by
The Streets Of Philadelphia,
Bruce Springsteen is releas-
ing his first-ever Greatest Hits
collection. The 15-track album
will carry material ranging
back to 1975's "Born To Run".

Score not enough to draw



One for kabaddi, three for the show: martial movement in Shobana Jeyasingh's *Raid*

THE FIRST part of Shobana
Jeyasingh Dance Company's
touring programme, *Making
Of Maps*, made in 1992, is so
exquisite, so accomplished,
that anything which follows
risks being a poor relation.
And that is the fate of
Jeyasingh's new piece, *Raid*,
which takes as its starting
point the popular Indian street
game called kabaddi.

There are two teams in
kabaddi, where designated
players try to "raid" the oppos-
ing team's territory without
getting caught. Jeyasingh
knits her dance with the
game's combat postures, runs
and encirclings, but avoids the
trap of repeating the players'
confrontations so often that
they become a monotonous
formula. Instead she frequen-
tly pulls the game into the
background, focusing on units
of pure movement that might
echo kabaddi's links with In-
dian martial arts or derive
from Bharatha Natyam, the
Indian classical dance that is
Jeyasingh's own background.

The switches from game to
dance can be disorientating at

DANCE
Shobana Jeyasingh
Playhouse,
Nottingham

first. Moreover, although
Jeyasingh has an eye for
composing stage patterns, the
results are more fluid, less
graphic than in *Making Of
Maps*, where she plays with
group unison, counterpoint
and fragmentation to produce
arresting tableaux, and where
the dancers' etched, their
outlines silhouetted in the
changing climate of Mike
Seignior's lighting.

Jeyasingh's six dancers,
fine-boned as gazelles, are also
flatteringly lit by Tina
MacHugh for *Raid*; but the
piece's most likeable compo-
nent is the two scores by
Jeyasingh and Glyn Perrin
respectively. These come to-
gether in the middle section, a
hiatus like half-time in a

match, in which pairs of
dancers evolve in slow, calm
shapes and Perrin's Western
violin duo (played live)
spreads a smooth, plangent
layer over Jeyasingh's taped
Indian percussion.

Elsewhere, Jeyasingh's
rousing score stands on its
own and includes rhythmic
chants which mirror another
kabaddi rule: that a "raider"
can escape capture as long as
he can repeat words such as
"kabaddi" without drawing
breath.

Jeyasingh's mission is to
update the ancient language of
Bharatha Natyam — tradi-
tionally a solo dance — and
make it represent more faith-
fully her own reality as an
Indian living in Britain. *Mak-
ing Of Maps* fulfils that objec-
tive with vivid perfection. The
opposing territories implicit in
Raid might equally be a
discreet metaphor for East
meeting West. But the dance
does not achieve enough vari-
ety and richness to sustain
interest.

NADINE MEISNER

CONCERTS: Bruckner at one with the audience; Enescu's European union

ANY performance of Bruck-
ner's Eighth Symphony in-
variably creates a bond
between orchestra and
audience. The nearest comparison
I know is with the chemistry in
an evening of Indian classical
music. Within its totally differ-
ent discipline, the listeners
become part of the creative
process in the quality of their
concentration.

They are able to do so
because Bruckner's 90-minute
symphony stands alone, with-
out interval and without per-
ipheral distraction — and, of
course, because it has the
potential for what one can
only call the transcendental.

That potential was richly
fulfilled on Thursday by the
Vienna Philharmonic, con-

Glorious ascent on golden ladder

Vienna PO/Haitink
Festival Hall

ducted by Bernard Haitink, in
the second concert of its third
Festival Hall series. This or-
chestra responded fascinat-
ingly to Haitink's lucid,
sensitive — but essentially
ascetic — way with Bruckner.

Every theme and group of
themes in the first movement
moved with a light agility:

there was no sense of the brass
heaving one sequence over
another, of Bruckner's favour-
ite little curled cadence becom-
ing a mannerism. Here, at
last, was the glory of
Bruckner's true minimalism:
pacing and voicing, tempo
and texture were as inter-
related as every fragment of
music, and scaled by Haitink
to live within the awe of
beginning and end.

Haitink's clarity of sight
was matched by the clarity of

focus of the VPO's strings. The
upbeat of cellos and violas to
the Scherzo, the violins' ebb
and flow of breath, set the
musical ritual of the brass into
high relief. The slow move-
ment, for all its ever-building
and ever-dissolving strata of
harmony, could have been a
long, single melody, sung
through to its great golden
Jacob's Ladder of an
apotheosis.

And Haitink's finale? It
seemed less a wonderful ac-
cumulation of episodes than a
single story, told in different
ways to different ears, until all
the stages of the journey were
recalled, and we knew the
place for the first time.

HILARY FINCH

East, west, Enescu's best

CBSO/Foster
Birmingham

like Mahler. It was the great
quality of this performance
that in the latter half of the
work, which (as the third
movement indicates) was writ-
ten after the outbreak of the
First World War, Foster was
able to motivate the CBSO not
only into a meaningful recol-
lection of earlier themes but
also into a convincing renewal
of the pre-war hedonism of the
first movement. The signifi-
cance of the recurrent ideas
had changed in the light of
intervening bitter experience,
but Enescu's optimism was
confirmed.

After so much exposure of
personal sensitivity and in-
strumental virtuosity, and so
much work done in accumu-
lating and profiling the cli-
maxes, this was no mean feat.

Clearly not in the best of
health — he had conducted a
paradoxically buoyant perfor-
mance of Cherubini's *Anacre-
on Overture* while sitting
down — Foster gave the re-
sponsibility for directing Bee-
thoven's Fourth Piano
Concerto to the soloist. Since
Jean-Bernard Pommier is
more experienced and more
skilled than most pianists in
the art of conducting from the
keyboard, Foster had nothing
to worry about.

As it happened, however,
this was not the happiest
example of what Pommier can
do, his own playing lacking in
definition and the orchestra
not always quite sure where
the next downbeat was about
to fall. Even so, it was an
interpretation with a unanim-
ity of expressive purpose that
is rarely achieved in any other
way.

GERALD LARNER

"It's poker, Mugsy, not
the bloody Lottery"

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Drug companies ignore a hope for Alzheimer's □ Fingerprints reveal a genetic predisposition to homosexuality □ A new atomic particle?



HERE'S a puzzle. A group of drugs proves effective in a series of trials against Alzheimer's disease, and nobody takes any notice at all.

This sounds impossible. Alzheimer's is the disease we all dread, the slow loss of intellectual function in life's final lap. Drug companies are falling over themselves to devise products that might delay the process by even a month or two, aware that they would be a money-spinner.

The paradox is easily explained. The drugs that show promise in the trials are old anti-inflammatories long used to treat arthritis. They include ibuprofen, indomethacin, and even aspirin: the group known collectively as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs. These are cheap, readily available, and in many cases, out of patent. They offer limited opportunities for profit, so we have not seen the large-scale trials that would be needed to prove their efficacy against Alzheimer's.

The story started in the late

1980s, when a number of people noticed that if you have arthritis, the risk of your contracting Alzheimer's is significantly reduced. Dr Patrick McGeer of the University of British Columbia studied a group of 7,490 patients with rheumatoid arthritis and found only 0.39 per cent had Alzheimer's. The expected proportion for this age group — all were over 64 — was 2.7 per cent.

Last year Dr John Breitner of Duke University reported in *Neurology* that the onset of Alzheimer's in 50 pairs of elderly twins depended on each twin's

Inflaming the issue



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

history of taking anti-inflammatories. "We found that the twins who had used anti-inflammatory drugs had four times greater likelihood of being the later-affected or the non-affected member of the pair. For identical twins, there was a ten-to-one difference."

The latest evidence comes from Dr Jill Rich of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. She studied 210 patients, all diagnosed with probable or possible Alzheimer's, and found that those taking NSAIDs tended to get the disease later, and their mental capacities

declined more slowly as measured by tests of verbal fluency, visual recognition and memory.

If this effect is real, how does it come about? Some researchers believe that the damage done to the brain by Alzheimer's has a strong inflammatory element, so simply damping that down would help. Another possibility is that free radicals, highly reactive substances created by metabolism, do the damage, and NSAIDs are known to mop them up.

Another possibility is that the benefit is the result of slowing another form of dementia, caused by a series of small strokes in the brain's blood vessels. In that case, the results may be explained by misdiagnosis: the patients do not actually have Alzheimer's at all.

Nobody is yet suggesting that old people should dose themselves with anti-inflammatories — though many already take aspirin as a protection against heart disease. Dr Claudia Kawas, co-author of the study, argues that we need to know more before we can be sure the drugs really make a difference. What a pity the drug industry does not have an interest in finding out.

Gay prints



HOMOSEXUAL groups were irate last year when Simon LeVay, of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in Los Angeles, said that he had found physiological differences in the brains of male homosexuals. The gay groups would rather believe that their sexual orientation is a matter of choice rather than biology.

Now psychologists from the University of Western Ontario have found an even more striking difference. Gay men are more likely than straight men to show asymmetry in their fingerprints.

The difference arises in the number of ridges found in the fingerprint. Men normally have more ridges than women, and in both sexes the ridge count is higher on the right than the left hand. Drs Jeff Hall and Doreen Kimura report in *Behavioural Neuroscience*.

But women are more likely than men to buck the trend and have a

higher count on the left hand. The two found that this also applies to gay men. They took fingerprints from 182 heterosexual and 66 homosexual men. Only 14 per cent of the straight men showed this asymmetry — more ridges on the left hand — but 30 per cent of the homosexuals did — comparable to the level among women.

Why should this be? The theory is that characteristics that differ between the sexes are at least partially determined in the womb, by hormones. Thus sexuality and fingerprints may both be the result of the precise combination of hormones experienced before we are born.

Atomic blast



AN experiment at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire has found traces of a new particle which lies outside today's physical theories.

However, the evidence is open to several interpretations, and the physicists are not ready to crack

open the champagne just yet. The experiment that has found the ghostly traces is run by the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Centre, with the universities of Erlangen, Karlsruhe and Oxford, and Queen Mary and Westfield College, London. Protons generated by the accelerator at RAL hit a metal target, and a detector filled with petroleum is used to observe the neutrinos indirectly produced.

The group has seen plenty of neutrinos, says Professor John Edgington of Queen Mary. But over the past four years, it has also seen about 100 other particles, which appear as flashes in the detector a few microseconds later. They appear, he says, to be about one-thirtieth the mass of the proton and cannot be explained by the standard model of the atom.

So is this a new particle, and is the standard model for the high jump? "I am cautious," admits Professor Edgington. "It's a very difficult thing to stick your neck out until you are absolutely sure. In my view, we'll probably find something in the standard model to explain it, but it's got to the point where we've decided to publish the observations."

The man who died for treasure island

The death of Andrew Lees has focused attention on the unique wonders of Madagascar, says Christine Orenge

On New Year's Eve, an African guide watched Andrew Lees, a dedicated environmental campaigner, track down a steep slope into the remote Petriky Forest, in southern Madagascar. It was the last time anybody saw Lees alive — soon afterwards he had a fatal heart attack.

It is a sad irony that it took his death to focus public attention on a magical island which is a treasure chest of rare and exotic flowers and creatures endangered largely by the crushing poverty of its people.

The 1,000 miles of Madagascar broke loose from the African mainland about 150 million years ago. This isolation made it a natural laboratory for many bizarre evolutionary experiments. There is more diversity on the island than anywhere else on the globe. It contained many creatures that lived in Gondwanaland — the ancient



Dedicated: Andrew Lees

superland that later became Africa, South America, Australia and the peninsula of India.

Settlers arriving in Madagascar from Indonesia and Africa about 1,500 years ago

would have found the place covered in lush forests and teeming with life. They were responsible for the first wave of environmental destruction. Many fantastic creatures were hunted to extinction — including lemurs the size of giant gorillas, miniature hippopotami, 26ft-long crocodile and several species of flightless birds including the amazing "elephant bird".

On Madagascar evolution did not follow the African line that led to man, but an earlier line leading to the lemurs. These are pre-monkeys, like the bush-babies and potos of mainland Africa. On their giant island they were safe from competition by larger mammals; there were no monkeys, no carnivores, no hoofed animals.

Like the few other mammals present, the lemurs had been washed up from the sea on logs, having drifted out on the floodwaters of African rivers. Although they are primates, like monkeys, and have the same forward-facing eyes, they do not have the round skulls but instead long skulls and snouts more suited to smell.

Constant pressures from humans for land has meant the destruction of more than 85 per cent of Madagascar's forests and the central plateau is today a denuded, barren, man-made prairie.

Despite the onslaught, however, there is still a phenomenal diversity of wildlife. The eastern region is covered in dense rainforest. Along the western coast, there is deciduous woodland. And in the south is the surreal spiny desert, a bizarre cactus-land.

It is this variety that supports the plethora of wildlife. Nearly 90 per cent of the plant and animal species are unique. Two-thirds of the world's chameleons are found in Madagascar, while nearly 99 per cent of the frog and reptile species are not found anywhere else. Birds and bats are more mobile, and share half their species with Africa. Insect-eating tenrecs are found here — the oldest line of placental mammals. Among the flowering plants, 81 per cent are unique.

But the most magical of the creatures are the lemurs. There are 40 known species, varying in size from the mouse lemur, several of which would fit into a teacup when young, to the spectacular indri, 40in tall and capable of leaping 30ft. The rarest and weirdest



From the exotic wonderland — this extraordinary caterpillar is just one of the creatures which make Madagascar a natural laboratory

of all is the aye-aye, which has incisors like a beaver, wide ears like a bat, and an extremely long middle finger adapted for digging insects from the tree trunks. The Malagasy villagers see the skeleton hand as a spirit of death, and ill-omen. Although the aye-aye now inhabit the island sanctuary of Nosy Mangabe, there may be fewer than a dozen left.

Madagascar has been called a Noah's Ark adrift in the Indian Ocean. It is an apt and poetic description. But beyond its aesthetic appeal, the island represents a phenomenal powerhouse for zoological and botanical research. A study of the diverse lemur species alone would shed much light on primate development elsewhere. Its many unique plant and animal species can provide essential clues to different modes of evolutionary adaptation.

Madagascar is perhaps the most important zoo on earth. Preserving its treasures requires considerable financial support from the international community. The country is desperately poor.

With one of the highest birthrates in the world, the population is expected to double in the next three decades. The fate of its wildlife is closely tied to that of its people. Rising population, crushing international debt and diminished exports have created huge pressures to turn more forests into rice paddies.

Shifting agriculture accounts for a loss of about 400,000 acres of forest each year. Furthermore, the traditional Malagasy farming method (*tavy*) involves slash-

ing down trees and burning the lands. Slash/burn fields require at least eight years to recover, but villagers often repeat *tavy* every four years to meet growing demands for rice. Scientists have already predicted that by 2015, half the environmentally-important regions will have been lost.

Environmental education is urgently required. Several projects have been launched by World Wide Fund for Nature and Conservation International. These aim to educate schoolchildren that planting trees will encourage rain and improve soil fertility. It will need much effort and resources.

More importantly, unless the economic pressures on

Madagascar are lifted, there is no hope of saving the forests. It takes half the value of all exports simply to repay the interest on the island's international debt.

It is easy to understand why damaging mining projects such as that proposed by RTZ are considered by the Government as a quick solution to ease the debt and boost the economy. However, as Sir David Attenborough has pointed out, there are alternative solutions, such as ecotourism. It is folly, as he says, to choose a project which will bring revenue for only 40 years but destroys a large resource which could bring revenues from ecotourism in perpetuity.

Additionally, the forests offer huge promise of potential wealth as sources of new medicinal compounds. The

rosy periwinkle, which is unique to Madagascar, has yielded chemicals which are important in the treatment of leukaemia and other cancers. Another plant, *Harungana madagascariensis*, has been refined into the drug Harunganin, used for stomach disorders. A native weed, *Cenella asiatica*, has been refined into the wound-healing drug, Madecassol.

Friends of the Earth has called for a two-year moratorium on the mining project while alternative environmentally-sensitive development strategies are researched. At the same time it has set up an Andrew Lees memorial fund to help to improve educational and research projects in the Petriky Forest. It may mean that his death will help to save one of the world's last great natural wonders.

● Dr Orenge was the fiancée of Andrew Lees.

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YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT.

What on Earth are we doing outside the space race?

THE flawless test-firing ten days ago of the Ariane 5 cryogenic rocket engine — nicknamed the "battleship test" — may have caused whoops around Europe but it was a painful moment for British scientists.

As an excited clutch of engineers, executives and journalists celebrated in

Kourou, French Guiana, few lingered to look at the 12 flags represented on a glass plaque dedicated to the Ariane 5 project. The Union Jack was not among them.

For financial reasons, Britain opted out of the Ariane 5 project at a 1987 meeting of the European Space Agency (ESA). France, through its

Anjana Ahuja reports on an embarrassing blast-off for Britain

space agency CNES, holds the biggest stake and has been the most vociferous supporter of pan-European space ventures. Britain also politely, and wisely, declined any involvement in the Hermes and Columbus space-crafts. Although these projects have stalled, the realisation that Britain is not part of Ariane 5's textbook-perfect progress is gradually dawning.

One irony is that the payload for the new European rocket's maiden launch in November is the Cluster experiment, a fleet of four spacecraft which will wander through the Earth's magnetosphere. Three of the 11 experiments on board are from

British universities. "We feel a bit like gatecrashers, being launched by a European rocket that we haven't even contributed to," says Andre Balogh, from Imperial College, who heads the magnetic field experiment.

Maurice Delahais is an ESA veteran, having for many years headed the scientific division at its headquarters in The Netherlands. Now the ESA representative in French Guiana, he sees the absence of Britain in Ariane 5 as a short-sighted mistake.

"This is the future of European space," he says. "Britain is excluded from a vital part of the programme. It can try to

catch up, although it will have to do so quickly to avoid being cold-shouldered altogether." The disappointment at Britain's self-imposed exclusion from future space projects, voiced by many eminent scientists, could not have surfaced at a more embarrassing time. As ESA celebrates its 20th birthday this year, rumours

abound that Britain may be forced to leave it.

Only last month the British National Space Centre sent out a glossy circular praising Britain's extra-terrestrial achievements. If there is no resolution of the funding problems soon, then space scientists will have to get used to gatecrashing.

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JP 11/10/150

When Europe fell to the buccaneers

Edith Wharton was ideally qualified to describe the lives of American adventurers, writes Robin Jenks

At the start of this century there were at least 454 American women who had married into the European aristocracy. They were the real adventurers who inspired Edith Wharton to write her last, unfinished, novel *The Buccaneers*.

The story, which is being serialised on BBC television on Sundays, tells of a group of vivacious American girls, snubbed by New York society because their riches are "new money", who conquer English society in the 1870s.

Wharton knew the phenomenon well. American beauties with money were highly prized as brides in Europe. By 1900 there were 42 American princesses, 17 duchesses, 39 viscountesses, 13 marchionesses, 46 ladies (the wives of baronets or knights), 64 baronesses and 136 countesses. This was a rich haul for the invaders and usually a happy outcome for their willing victims.

Europeans made no distinction between old and new money. To them there were only rich Americans and poor Americans. If beauty went with money, as it often did, that was all to the good. If not, then a good dress-maker and a display of jewels could make the plainest girl attractive. Most of the time it was the best sort of transaction. The American girls wanted titles and the English men wanted money and healthy wives.

Money and good looks, however, were not all that the Americans had to offer. They were well educated, enjoyed freedom and were fun to be with. For the young Englishman expected to marry a girl straight from the schoolroom, they made a welcome and exhilarating change. And they knew how to get on with men.

That does not mean that their virginity was in doubt, for they understood that it was a prized commodity. But this did not prevent them from indulging in minor sexual activities. They knew what men were like and they liked them for it.

Not all the matches were

motivated by money. Love often intruded. When the beautiful Jenny Jerome met Lord Randolph Churchill at Cowes they became secretly engaged three days later. Neither of their families were happy about the match.

Jenny's father, Leonard Jerome, was a Wall Street wheeler-dealer who made and lost several fortunes in New York while his wife and children lived in Paris. The

in central heating, too, and averted her eyes from the portraits of her husband's mistresses. She knew what she was there for.

Consuelo Vanderbilt was pushed into becoming the duchess by her ruthless mother, who had broken up her affair with the man she really loved. She spent the morning of her sumptuous wedding in tears and soon found herself marooned in the dullness of English aristocratic rural life. Consuelo eventually escaped into a happy second marriage to a commoner and was supplanted by the third American duchess, Gladys Deacon, the daughter of a millionaire banker from Boston.

Gladys, renowned for both her beauty and intellect, refused to stay at home and became the toast of Europe.

Minnie Stevens was an early real-life "buccaneer". Her mother was the rich widow of a hotel owner and was rumoured to have once been a chambermaid. Denied access to New

York society, Mrs Paron Stevens sailed to England, where she successfully launched Minnie on a glittering round of balls, picnics and parties.

Soon Minnie and the Prince of Wales were dancing together and the 18-year-old beauty started on a seven-year hunt for a husband. She flirted with dukes, earls and barons but finally had to settle for Colonel Arthur Paget from the Brigade of Guards. All the same, her position was assured as a member of the Prince's set and she went on to take a prominent place in London society.

Minnie had a younger brother, Harry, who became engaged to the only daughter of the formidable Lucrèce Rhinelanders Jones, of New York. Mrs Stevens was now riding high but had not forgotten that she had been snubbed by Lucrèce, who had helped to exclude her daughter from the social round. The engagement was broken off and Lucrèce's daughter, Edith, went on to marry Teddy Wharton. Fifty years later Edith took up her pen to chronicle the lives of the buccaneers.



Consuelo Vanderbilt, pushed into marrying a duke and (below) the BBC *Buccaneers*



Churchill family was not impressed and disliked things even more when Jerome refused to settle money on the couple. It was not until the 1890s, when the marriage went ahead and Jenny gave birth to Winston Churchill.

The need to keep up Blenheim Palace led to there being three American Duchesses of Marlborough. The first was one of America's richest widows, Lily Hamersley, who was recommended by Lord Randolph as "she has a lot of tin". The tin was soon converted into the lead needed to repair the 14 acres of roof of her extensive home. She put



Christabel Albery: without the right tax breaks and a London film commission, she says, huge prospective earnings from tourism are being lost

London's shooting star

Margot Norman meets the woman who believes there's money for us all in the movies

Imagine the outcry if Gillian Shephard were to tell the Education Select Committee she couldn't remember when she last set foot in a school, or if Brian Mawhinney told the transport committee it was years since he'd taken a train. It says much about the newly confident state of the British audio-visual industry that Sydney Samuelson, the British Film Commissioner, didn't squeal when Stephen Dorrell told the Arts and Heritage Select Committee last week that he couldn't remember when he last saw a film.

Unlike right-wingers on the committee who have come round to the tax breaks the industry wants, he didn't even groan. On the contrary, Mr Samuelson has high hopes of Mr Dorrell, the seventh minister in his three and a half years as commissioner to assume responsibility for boosting Britain's share of the industry that is about to overtake aviation as America's biggest export earner. "He may be no filmmaker, but he's an intelligent Treasury man who understands money, and that's what matters."

That the industry is now talking money, and has given up on anguished pleas for Art and Culture by knighted luminaries, is largely due to the efforts of Sydney Samuelson and Christabel Albery. He is the industry's elder statesman: she is a film and television producer who dropped everything to get a film commission for London off the ground. (She has now secured promises for half the £250,000 a year she needs: that's the stage when a producer trying to get a film "up"

knows it will actually happen.)

He has been in the business since before he was born in 1925, when his father, a producer, cast his pregnant mother in Rider Haggard's *She*: young Sydney started as a cameraman and went on to found Samuelsons, now the world's biggest audio-visual equipment supply organisation. She is part of the Albery showbusiness clan, with

elsewhere in Europe, most gallingly to Ireland. (Mel Gibson's *Brave Heart* is one of several big films to have got away recently for that reason.)

Cumbersome red tape, especially in London, which is where 80 per cent of British film action takes place, makes this a hard place to film in. That is Miss Albery's and Mr Samuelson's pigeon and they are getting on with

tackling it. As Sydney Samuelson defines it, a film commission should be a one-stop shop where, with one fax or phone call from anywhere in the world, a film-maker can set up his locations, find the ideal fairy castle for his

Cinderella remake or arrange a London street scene, and at the same time fix accommodation for the crew. Instant response is the key to success, not bureaucratic dithering, non-cooperation or the sort of profiteering that some boroughs have engaged in. For example, Lambeth banned night filming. Hackney demanded £1,000 a day for suspending parking meters and Southwark tried charging £2,000 a day for use of a public highway.

The London Film Commission will have a big job on its plate, but it's a job crying out to be done. The New York

Film Commission boosted film activity there by more than 30 per cent in four years. In Utah, the long-established film commission claims to bring in \$108 for every \$1 that it spends.

None of this will happen, though, if Mr Dorrell turns a deaf ear to what Miss Albery has been telling the select committee. Specifically, she wants film-makers to be released from having to wait three years before they can offset their production costs against tax. She wants the Inland Revenue to treat foreign film stars like Jack Nicholson (who won't perform here because of the tax penalties) in the same way as they already treat foreign rock stars who come here. And she wants a 10 per cent tax break on the British bits of a multinational production's costs.

Earnings from tourism, she thinks, could finally bring Mr Dorrell on side. With the hotel bedroom in *Four Weddings and a Funeral* booked out until 1997 and American tour operators building tours round the Golden Valley as seen in *Shadowlands*, film-inspired tourism could be big business. Kevin Costner's *Field of Dreams*, a remote spot in Iowa, is now a heritage park bringing in 100,000 visitors.

As Miss Albery says: "Ninety-five per cent of Americans still haven't been outside North America. What will make them travel? Not a tourist ad, but a film like *Crocodile Dundee*, which was like a two-hour commercial full of Australian backdrops and boosted American visits to Australia by 20 per cent. Film is a big part of bringing the romance back into travel."

With film-makers, instant response is the key to success

Cool, calm and collectively decisive

The dead of winter is just the right time to decide which hobbies are too noisy for the national parks

After a few days far away, stealing a slice of glorious summer in the middle of winter's discontent, it is dreadful to be back. Dislocated, you grope for the grubby threads of the week's news, piecing it together from hearsay. Any Questions, and newspapers wrapped around potatoes. The wet look on Diana competes for attention with the even wetter look on the unfortunate Netherlands: Europe, interest rates and the real war hunter on newspapers insult one another, Mr Birt insults his staff, some overpaid fat cat insults junior doctors. The young are lost and found on Ben Nevis, the old and mad are lost by the NHS, and Treliske Hospital takes young parents to law for the return of the hypodermic needle said to have been left in their baby. It still seems to be, curse it, the same old world.

One development, however, did focus my wavering attention. Probably, shame to say, because it involves quiet rustling water, green leaves rustling, red sails in the sunset and other things currently nearer to my heart than most. It is this: the Lords have voted to require the ten national park authorities to promote only the "quiet enjoyment" of their areas.

Which means — unless the Commons block it — the possible end of motorsport in national parks. It could be goodbye to motorcycle scrambles on Eton Moor, to four-wheel drive rallies in the Peaks and water-skis on Windermere. It could even remove the skidding, rooming, mud-spraying RAC Rally from quiet forest paths. Fast motorsport enthusiasts, already banned from the Broads and several of the great lakes, protest that they have their rights.

A spokesman for the Royal Yachting Association, which is in the amusingly invidious position of representing not only peaceful brown-sailed potterers but the speedboats which torment them, said gloomily that: "Quiet enjoyment is almost impossible to define." The Council for National Parks retorted that the Government would just have to set about finding a legal definition of it.

Indeed, whatever misgivings one may have about any politician's knowing anything at all about quiet enjoyment, it was definitely high time someone sat down and discussed

just that. Someone must arbitrate and the dead of winter is probably the safest time to do so: for, aside from our pets, the thing which arouses most furious partisan passion in the British is any attack on our hobbies.

We all have blind spots concerning our pastimes' effect on other people and on nature. If you want to end a friendship, try telling a golfer that the hideous emerald



LIBBY PURVES

smoothness of golf courses wrecks Cornish cliffs. Lose another few by talking to an angler about cruelty to fish, a huntsman about cubbing, and a keen shot about the fatuity of driven pheasant shoots. Then tease a sailor about the environmental impact of moorings and marinas on quiet river estuaries, and introduce a few naturalists to the secretary of the local paintball club.

Each enthusiast will up and lunge at you, claiming that his or her sport is the only safeguard of the environment and the true spiritual home of those who love the countryside, waterfront, wildfowl marshes or whatever. Some of these arguments will be justified, others will be specious: they will all be passionate and entirely selfish.

Among sailors, the group I

know best, it gets like the French Revolution with every citizen rushing to denounce the others. Dinghy sailors point the finger at the owners of cruising keelboats, because they need deep moorings and therefore litter the estuaries all week with idle white plastic tubs, which moreover don't have holding-tanks for their sewage.

The cruising yachtsmen point right back, condemning the speed, aggressive racing practices and brightly coloured sails of the dinghy-coupled which frighten coastal birds off their nests. Then both parties round on the owners of huge, hideous motorboats: and even they join in the general bitter hatred of those hellish motorcycles on water, the jet-skis which now circle aimlessly and infuriatingly through what used to be peaceful summer afternoons in the secret upper reaches of East Coast rivers (I am not sure who the jet-skiers blame, since I have never been able to bring myself to speak to one).

Much the same bitter railing goes on ashore, between green-laners, mountain-bik-

ers, horseriders, scramblers and ramblers. It always will. Nobody truly in the grip of any sport is reasonable: the view from the helm or the handlebars is too seductive. In all probability the Environment Ministers will make no attempt to rule on what constitutes "quiet enjoyment" in a crowded island, but will pass the buck to the national park authorities (privatised by then, no doubt) because if one thing spoils the quiet enjoyment of politics it is the prospect of alienating a tranche of voters by restricting their sport.

But someone must take responsibility. The land must have its lungs: there must be places, not too far from home, for quiet enjoyment. When we have a brave and sensible government, sacrifices will be exacted for that principle. For some of us, it will only mean ditching the outboard and rowing all the way home when the wind drops, and perhaps dyeing the striped sails some colour the nesting birds would approve of. For others, the sacrifice will hurt more. Fair enough, I suppose. The worst sufferers, after all, will be the ones who have been tormenting other people for years and never thinking twice about it.

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Matthew Parris



■ Perhaps people are like penguins, with those who avoid the heaviest toil living to enjoy a spry old age

In my days of doorstep canvassing for the Conservative Party, I began to meet and recognise a woman. Over and again I would encounter her. Sometimes she was rich, sometimes poor. Sometimes she had travelled the world, sometimes she had hardly left her village. Sometimes she was a supporter of my party, sometimes a fierce opponent. She appeared in many guises.

Yet I soon learnt to spot her. She was old, often very old: she might be well into her nineties. Whether living alone (and she frequently was) or with another, she was always of an independent disposition. Her eyes were bright. Her mind had stayed sharp while her contemporaries' had dulled, and this seemed more than a matter of chance or genetic inheritance for, time and again, she had had a career.

Such careers were by no means always high-flying — she might have been a clerk, a sub-postmistress, book-keeper or private secretary. What her careers had in common was this: she had always been able to take an interest in things. Her intelligence had never sunk beneath a daily grind. She had time to keep up with events. That is not to say that she had not worked hard, sometimes very hard, sometimes for a paltry wage, but it had never — never — been the sort of work that breaks a person down. I observed that her work had almost never been manual labour.

Not that she had not kept fit and strong. She had looked after herself. But she had not as a matter of habit pushed herself physically to the limit. She had not toiled as working men, harassed young mothers or omen sometimes must. Hers was the fitness more of the cat or sparrow than of the carthorse. She had avoided excessive weariness as a way of life: she would not have thought exhaustion good for you. She had paced herself.

She had been able to for, remarkably often, she had never married. There were so many different reasons for this. She may never have wished to, she may never have been asked, or she may have lost a lover in the war. When she had married (and sometimes she had), she might have lost a husband early, or not been blessed with children, or had the means to get help in the house. If married, her married life had been distinguished by this: she had never had to be a drudge.

This was the woman, these were the women, whom I encountered over and over again, living on, well beyond the life-span of others, their spirits burning brightly into their

eighties and beyond: their minds sharp; their bodies working still. Sometimes they had outlived every one they had known, always they had outlived their generation. Usually they were happy.

Penguin society knows the equivalent of this woman. One must not become a bore about penguins, and this is positively my last column on these birds, but I was much struck by something I learnt by visiting Antarctica recently. Male and female penguins take an equal share in the raising of their young — but some never get into the breeding game at all.

A minority never pair or reproduce, but live with the colony and find other occupations instead. They search for stones for nests or keep a lookout for predators, or form an advance guard to attack aggressors. Their lives (more than those of the breeding couples) include a good measure of simply horsing around, something that parents have less time to do.

These penguins live longer. Studies of the lifestyles

Quite possibly, drudgery and hard work simply wear us out like machines

Nobody knows why this should be. One suggestion is that keeping a family leads a bird into more danger. Maybe. But I wonder if there isn't another cause. Perhaps it is just that hard, boring work wears you out.

Is our age right to assume that pushing yourself to physical exhaustion and mental numbness is good for you? We know that it develops big muscles on a hod-carrier, and trains an athlete to a higher pitch of performance, but do these people live longer? Is it possible that animals, like machines, simply wear out?

In describing the woman I came to know, I may have fudged together two separate facts about her: that she had enjoyed an active mental life and that she had not pushed herself physically to her limits. It is possible that one and not the other is the key to her health and longevity. Yet I have a hunch that they are linked: I think, by this, that woman was always in control. She was the captain of her ship. Servitude can be both a physical and a mental state, and she had avoided both.

Drudgery and exhaustion are conditions of mind as well as body. I suspect they shorten as well as diminish an animal's life.

Despite a phoney calm, President Clinton is besieged by investigations into his dubious past

Even Watergate was small beer to this

original questions relating to land deals and Savings and Loans impropriety, but also to issues of drugs and money-laundering, of loans by the Arkansas Development Finance Agency, of the death of Vincent Foster, and the way that was investigated. There is a separate Special Inquiry into the allegedly corrupt relations between Don Tyson and the Administration. Don Tyson, like Dan Lasater, is alleged to have been in the drug business.

There is a Senate banking committee inquiry, under the chairmanship of Senator D'Amato of New York, the "pit-bull" of the Republican Party. There is a parallel House inquiry. These are both being postponed on the ground that they should not interfere with the work of Kenneth Starr. There is the suspended legal action against the President by Paula Jones for sexual harassment. There are also inquiries being made — if not published — by almost all the major newspapers. The New York Post has been running new stories about one of the stranger investments made by Adia when Bill Clinton was Governor. Two special prosecutors, two congressional inquiries, Paula Jones and the press, not to mention television — no wonder the legal fees already come to \$1,600,000. They will end up much higher than that.

What is the basic truth of this Whitewater matter? To put it briefly: the state of Arkansas was corrupt.

the way Mexico is corrupt, long before Bill Clinton entered state politics, long before he was born. This corruption goes back over a hundred years to the period after the Civil War. In the 1970s, the corruption came to be financed by drug money, even before Clinton became Governor. People got killed: we even know the names of some of the hitmen.

By the early 1980s, drug importation through Arkansas — much of it through Mena airport — reached

fund. In the 1980s, Arkansas was awash with cocaine and money-laundering. It may have been impossible for Bill Clinton to keep his hands clean, but his great mistake was to think that he could go from being Governor of Arkansas, a deeply corrupted state, to being US President without the truth emerging.

That is what happened. There is no lack of people who do not want this ugly truth to emerge. The main national media — The Washington Post, The New York Times, the television network news programmes — have done their best to turn a blind eye, partly because this is so horrifying a story, and partly from political sympathy. Most journalists in America, like most academics, are liberals. They were keen enough to expose President Nixon at Watergate, which involved much less serious criminal issues, when the partisan advantage was in favour of the Democrats.

Some leading Republicans themselves want the exposure of the truth postponed, because they think it will be easier to beat President Clinton than Vice-President Al Gore in 1996. One leading Republican in the House of Representatives admits that there were "PR advantages" in postponing hearings. Another said that he was not certain how long the truth would take to emerge. A

Republican senator argued that the new Republican majority needed first to prove that it could legislate successfully, and that it would have been wrong to make the exposure of the President the first item on the agenda. Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader, has been almost as keen to keep this issue on the back burner as the Democrats; he seems to enjoy doing business with a family weakened President.

Even the Democrats are now beginning to be worried that the coming Whitewater earthquake may strike at the worst possible moment for their party. Bill Bradley, the much-respected Senator of New Jersey, who might once have been a presidential candidate himself, has said that the Whitewater revelations might damage Clinton to the point at which he will be challenged in the primaries.

The pressures on the Special Prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, are enormous. His investigation could destroy the President. The Arkansas narco-businessmen are dangerous; they have killed before. Whoever confronts them needs physical as well as moral courage. So far, the secrets of the special investigation have been well kept, although there are rumours of altered testimony about Vincent Foster, and Webster Hubble has been indicted on a plea bargain.

Ordinary Americans feel "an extraordinary intensity of distrust" about President Clinton. They are waiting for the truth to emerge, and they feel it is being suppressed. No one now can control the timing of these complex processes — not Congress, not Robert Dole, not the President. The danger is that the American people will come to believe that they cannot trust either their politicians or their friends to tell them the truth.

William Rees-Mogg

Don't set pledges in stone

Peter Riddell argues that any permanent party constitution soon looks dated

The party is looking for a fresh statement of values after more than a decade of ideological buffeting. Labour or the Tories — take your pick. Tony Blair's case for revising Clause Four of the Labour constitution — that the party must clarify its beliefs — has echoes in the still unresolved Conservative debate since the fall of Margaret Thatcher. What might a Tory Clause Four look like?

Most such statements date quickly. Labour's Clause Four, with its commitment to the "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange", was, as Jack Straw has argued, a compromise agreed in 1918 with little discussion. It was aimed at the middle classes, and advanced by the modernisers of the day. Yet for decades virtually no one has accepted its literal meaning of common ownership without limits. Successive leaders have ignored these words in proposing various forms of mixed economy.

Similarly, any such clause drawn up by the Tories in 1918 would have reflected the unsettled politics of the time. The party, as the core of Lloyd George's wartime coalition, was only just abandoning its entrenched opposition to votes for women and to Irish Home Rule, though this was not fully resolved until 1921 when Ulster was excluded. MPs were confused, not just about Lloyd George and Ireland, but also over the role of the State after the big expansion of government during the war. Any Tory statement of objectives in 1918 would have included references to defence of the Crown, the Empire and India — along, probably, with a commitment to imperial preference in tariffs.

Yet the Tories changed their policies on tariff reform twice over the



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

following 15 years, while proposals to concede greater self-government for India were enacted during the 1930s despite Churchill's vigorous protests. By the late 1940s, any 1918 version would have looked archaic, as India was granted independence in 1947, while the centrepiece of British foreign policy became the Atlantic Alliance. In 1947 also, the Conservatives formally accepted that the Government had responsibilities to manage the economy by endorsing *The Industrial Charter* produced by R.A. Butler and bright young members of the Conservative Research Department such as Reginald Maudling.

During the Butskellite era of the 1950s, the Tories' commitment to the mixed economy became firmer. Any Tory statement would have combined the language of Disraeli's One Nation with the collectivism of Harold Macmillan's *The Middle Way* in

a consensus confession. By the early 1970s, a commitment to integration with the rest of Europe would have been added by Sir Edward Heath. Then, following Margaret Thatcher's coup of 1975, any statement would have been more starkly nationalist, free-market and anti-collectivist. She did not march to the same drum as her predecessor.

Since 1990, the emphasis has shifted again, although it is still unclear where to. Any Majorite statement would include the traditional Tory theme of a strong defence of the Union, plus an assertion of public rights in relation to public services via the citizen's charter. A 1991 version might have talked of Britain being "at the very heart of Europe". Now, the reference to

Europe might be more ambiguous. The battles over tariff reform at the start of the century are matched by those now over Europe, as Michael Heseltine showed yesterday when raising the pro-European standard.

And it is not just the main parties which find even their firmest commitments being changed by time. The Gang of Four signalled their break away from Labour with the "Line-house Declaration" of January 1981. What was then presented as a non-ideological statement now looks dated. The comment that "our economy needs a healthy public sector and a healthy private sector without frequent frontier changes" was aimed at the stirrings of privatisation as well as Labour's nationalisation proposals. Yet only Labour's hard Left now wants to shift the frontiers back to

where they were in 1981, when British Airways and British Telecom, still alone the energy utilities, were set in the public sector. When the SDP merged with the Liberals in 1988, there was much debate about whether Nato membership should be in the preamble of objectives — as a reassurance for the SDP against Liberal unilateralism. It was included, only to be dropped quietly in 1990, when the new party adopted a pro-nuclear stance.

Traditional Tories argue that all this shows how wise their party has been not to have a formal statement of beliefs. Ian Gilmour celebrated the Conservatives' lack of doctrine in *Inside Right*, his elegant and muted warning of 1977 against the rise of what became known as Thatcherism. For him, Conservatives "are not blind to the imperfections of free enterprise and the market... They do not believe that the profit motive will solve all economic problems. There is no Tory equivalent of the Labour party's Clause Four". For him, flexibility and adaptability were the keywords: the scepticism of Oakeshott rather than the certainties of Hayek.

Lady Thatcher was guided by conviction rather than consensus, in a deliberate rejection of this non-ideological Conservatism. Her followers have turned her gut values into even more of an "ism" than she ever did. Some of the Tories' troubles since 1990 have stemmed from their attempts to apply the ideology of Thatcherism to the changed circumstances of the 1990s.

The lesson for Labour is that the more specific the new statement is, the sooner it will be out of date. Mr Blair is right to replace the 1918 words — not least, as he argued yesterday, as a symbol of the party's new identity, to win the public's trust. But social justice, solidarity, partnership, equality and democracy are just tokens without practical meaning. Mr Blair might be better off with no new Clause Four. But parties of the Left require such statements to motivate their supporters. People should not, however, delude themselves that such statements are any guide to what Labour would do in office. The Tories have prospered far more this century without such an ideological deadweight.

Shelf life

THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY has long been a venue for lovers' trysts among Oxford undergraduates. But now *Oxford Student*, the weekly newspaper, is proposing to formalise the hitherto *ad hoc* arrangements by arranging a lonely hearts corner.

"Special desks could be set aside according to sexual orientation and preference," suggests an article; "alternatively, each desk could have a sheet of personal ads along with the library regulations."

One regular undergraduate visitor to "the Bod" has further tips for love in the library: "There are some nice dark nooks and crannies near the Romantic poetry section in the upper reading room," he says. "They fill up on St Valentine's Day."

Of course the university's grand buildings have long set undergraduates dreaming of romance in life and in literature: notably in Beer-bohm's *Zuleika Dobson* and Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*.

Students in Cambridge too have often found the University Library's surroundings and the musty smell of books romantically compelling, but this seems to be the

first time that a specific section of either building has been mentioned for prospective courting couples.

College fellows are intrigued by the idea. "It would transform the upper reading room," says one with a glint in his eye. "But the much older Duke Humphry's Library, where the ancient manuscripts are kept, has been thought the best rendezvous in the Bodleian by older members of the university."



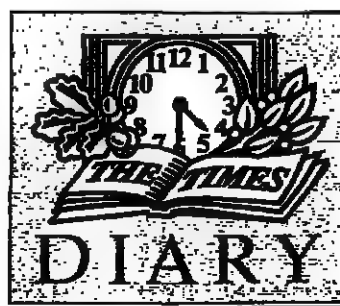
● Heartening news reaches me about teetotaler Nelson Mandela. Launching a new edition of his guide to South African wine last week at South Africa House, John Platter told me that the President has a very sweet tooth and has been known to have the occasional tippie of "disgusting sweet brown sherry".

The very man

THE theological musings of one of the Queen's chaplains, until now known only to the monarch and a few clergy, are to go on sale for the first time. *Verdict on Jesus*, by the late Rev Leslie Badham, catalogues the historical evidence for Jesus's existence. The Queen is said to keep a copy by her bedside.

Professor Paul Badham, son of the late chaplain, has written a preface to the work. His father, he says, was always "very struck by the sincerity of the Queen's beliefs. She had one of the very first copies of his book. My father was a free thinker. The Queen's interest meant a great deal to him."

● It's not just John Major who is taking the Euro-sceptics a little more seriously. Bill Cash's European Foundation has just received a cheque for £20 for a year's sub-



scription to the sceptical European Journal from Geoffrey Martin, the London director of the European Commission. Cash is delighted: "It's the ultimate recognition. I hope he enjoys it."

Old Junk

Among the gips and hustlers selling O.J. Simpson dolls and T-shirts outside the Los Angeles courtroom where the star is being tried sits a man attempting to offload some goods which have a rather more personal touch.

With an eye for a sharp move, furniture dealer Wafsi Tolaymat bought up the contents of the Chicago hotel room where O.J. stayed the night after allegedly murdering his wife and her friend. He snapped up the bed, curtains, ash

tray, ice-bucket, and even drinking glasses (excluding the one that O.J. says he broke upon hearing of his wife's death) for \$4,000.

He hopes to sell the lot for \$100,000 — but the punters are clearly holding back to see if the objects turn out to be relics of O.J.'s last hours of freedom: the highest offer so far is \$30,000.

Butling along

JOHN MAJOR's classless society moves one step closer today. Lord Lawson is to serve tea to his former butler, Henry Cottrell, 69, who has waited on four Tory Chancellors in his 12 years at Dorneywood, will be retiring in July, and today Lawson opens the shared housing project near Milton Keynes into which Cottrell and his wife Doreen are moving.

Cottrell is looking forward to seeing his former boss again. "We haven't seen them since he retired. It will be nice to see him again." But he won't comment on which Chancellor made the best boss. After 12 years he has learnt the politician's evasive skills. "I don't go in for that kind of thing," he says.

● Sir Denis Thatcher has still to realise one ambition. After my recent report that he harbours a

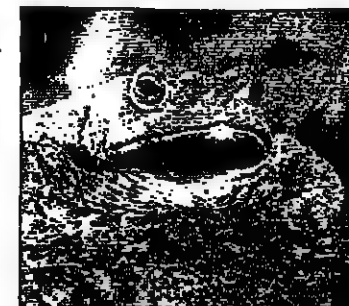
secret desire to go white-water rafting, offered to take him on board have flooded in. He has declined, pleading poverty. "I had a letter from one company offering a trip for \$500," he says. "I didn't like the sound of it. I said I didn't have \$500. But also I don't want to break my neck."

Toad haul

WITH HORDES of amorous toads about to make their annual mating migration to a pond in the grounds of his home, Petworth Park in West Sussex, by crossing a busy road, Lord Egremont is relieved that his toad tunnel has just been finished.

Helped by a donation from his Leconfield estate, Chichester council has constructed a "toad safety tunnel", at a cost of £6,000, under the A283, which borders the park. Now the amphibians, guided by a 300-yard plastic fence, will be channelled down into the tunnel and make the trip in safety.

"I am delighted that it is finished," says Lord Egremont. "I was very worried about the toads. So many were slaughtered crossing the road that it was a bit like a toad First World War," he adds grimly.



Lord Egremont, the amphibian's friend

P.H.S

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA HIGHSMITH

Patricia Highsmith, American novelist and short-story writer died in Locarno, Switzerland, on February 4 aged 74. She was born at Fort Worth, Texas, on January 1, 1921.

PATRICIA HIGHSMITH had no objection to being called a crime writer but, although most of her work remained within the field of crime fiction, her primary interests and her appeal strayed far beyond anything which could properly be described as detective stories. Her first novel, *Strangers on a Train*, is probably best known simply because Alfred Hitchcock turned it into a very successful film, scripted by Raymond Chandler; but the book is hardly typical of her work, the brightly polished film even less so.

Much more characteristic is *The Talented Mr Ripley*, which displays a chilling amorality that some readers found highly distasteful. Highsmith was admired by critics such as Graham Greene who were attracted by the darkness of her themes; he called her a "poet of apprehension". "Unease" and "edginess" were words frequently applied to the mood she engendered. Significantly, she was less popular in her native America than in Britain, and less popular in Britain than in continental Europe, where crime fiction has always tended to have a darker tone.

Both Patricia Highsmith's parents were commercial artists, but they had separated four months before she was born. She was twelve years old before she even met her father, Jay Bernard Plangman. She was brought up initially by her maternal grandmother, but when she was three her mother married the man to whom Patricia would later refer curiously as "Highsmith". He adopted her. Their home in New York was an untidy place of constant emotional storms and squabbles, which left her with a strong antipathy for the claustrophobia of family life. One of her stories was about a small boy sharing a one-room apartment with his artist mother — whom he murders.

A tale she wrote for her school magazine, about a homicidal nanny, was rejected as too unpleasant. At Barnard College she studied English composition: two years on playwriting, two years on the short story, but nothing, as she afterwards ruefully recalled, on the novel.



Although she was also quite an accomplished artist, she decided that writing should be her career. When she graduated in 1942 her plan was to accumulate enough money to live on while she wrote a novel. Having answered an advertisement which turned out to be for a scriptwriter in the comic book industry, she developed the narratives for characters such as Superman.

As soon as possible, however, she went to Mexico to begin a literary career. Her first attempt, a straggling Gothic novel, was never finished. But she taught herself technique, and *Strangers on a Train* was published in 1950. Its plot, in which the innocent hero is approached by a psychotic to "swap" murders, each removing an obstacle from the other's life with no visible connection between killer and victim, happened to be used simultaneously by Cecil Day-Lewis, writing

as Nicholas Blake, for his novel *A Penknife in my Hand*. But this appears to have been a genuine coincidence and nobody was greatly upset. In Patricia Highsmith's book, unlike the film, the second murder is duly committed and the hero, as well as the villain, comes to a bad end. The film rights were acquired for just \$7,000, but she considered herself launched.

Almost casual murder, the sexually and morally ambiguous relationship between two men, and the idea of an innocent protagonist drawn accidentally but relentlessly to disaster, were elements that recurred in later books. She used crime not just as the hinge of a plot but to reveal and mould the peculiar or vulnerable psychology of her characters, never doubting, however, that her primary objective must be to entertain the reader.

The Talented Mr Ripley (1957) was probably her own favourite book. Ripley is an insecure young man who finds confidence only when acting out a criminal role. This quick leads him, through a couple of murders and various adroit deceptions and escapes, to a new, happy and prosperous life. The complete lack of moral sensitivity, highlighted by touches of black humour, so outraged Margherita Laski that she threatened to resign from the critics' panel of the Crime Writers' Association if Patricia Highsmith was given an award. Nevertheless, awards she duly received, both in Britain and in France. *Ripley* was made into a French film called *Purple Moon* and Patricia Highsmith deployed the character again in several subsequent books, the last of which, *Ripley Under Water*, was published in 1991.

She spent some time in Europe during the early 1950s, then returned to America, where she lived a nomadic existence, moving from city to city. In 1962 she came back to England, making her home for a while in a Suffolk village.

She moved to France, in 1967. Disliking crowds and pressure, she settled about an hour's drive from Paris and lived in France for some years. Her manner of living was rather austere, with cats for company and a garden for relaxation. Although much admired by French intellectuals and film-makers, she went into Paris only on special occasions. Work, she said, was the great safeguard against depression. Except for a brief period in which she tried sharing with a female friend, she preferred to live alone.

Among the writers to whom she was rather absurdly compared, from Sophocles to Kierkegaard, Henry James at least had a certain relevance. The opening of the *Ripley* saga echoed *The Ambassadors*. Patricia Highsmith was interested in the experience of Americans in Europe. She herself had decided to find Europe more congenial. American society she thought "shaky" and rootless, American suburbs oppressively dull. "I was a sort of communist at one time," she recalled, "not for long, at the end of the Spanish Civil War." She wrote an unpublished political satire, but was not in fact very political, though her inclinations were certainly to the left. "I'm not mad about de Gaulle," she said in the 1960s. "France is slowly drifting into a fascist state." Later she had

moved to Switzerland, settling near Locarno on Lake Maggiore.

The Ties that Bind (1969), set in North Africa and involving an American who never knows whom, if anyone, he has killed, was compared to Gide. Some of her bitterest books, however, such as *The Glass Cell* (1965), *A Dog's Ransome* (1972) and *Found in the Street* (1986), had American backgrounds. Disregard of human life, the callousness of chance and the deterioration of personality were themes running through them all.

She was fond of animals. At one stage she kept snails, and wrote a story called *The Snail-Watcher*. In *The Animal Lover's Book of Beastly Murder* (1975) various creatures wreak their vengeance on human beings; for example, a one-eyed, two-legged Venetian rat chews the nose off a baby's face. *Tales of Natural and Unnatural Catastrophes* (1987) envisaged ecological doom in several shapes. *Little Tales of Misogyny* (1977) seems generally misanthropic rather than prejudiced against either sex in particular. *Edith's Diary* (1977), although it includes a death by euthanasia, can scarcely be considered a crime novel; it is the portrait of a woman gradually retreating into madness.

Unlike some of her admirers, she never became pretentious. In a little book called *Plotting and Writing Suspense Fiction* (1966) she had expounded the practical principles of her craft, such as the desirability of starting, in the very first paragraph, with some slight puzzle. Introducing a volume of her short stories, Graham Greene wrote: "She has created a world of her own — a world claustrophobic and irrational which we enter each time with a sense of personal danger, with the head half-turned over the shoulder, even with a certain reluctance, for these are cruel pleasures we are about to experience."

She was clear-sighted and unromantic but always ready to help her professional colleagues. Julian Symonds said, correctly, that her work was an acquired taste. "Most of my books are pretty gloomy," she admitted. She had no time for religion and no belief in luck, as distinct from blind chance. "I find the public passion for justice quite boring and artificial," she said, "for neither life nor nature cares if justice is ever done or not."

She was unmarried.

MAJOR-GENERAL NORMAN FOSTER



Foster with Princess Alexandra on the declaration of independence in Nigeria, 1960

Major-General Norman Foster, CB, DSO, Commander of the Royal Nigerian Army, 1959-62, and Director of British Army Security, 1965-73, died on January 3 aged 85. He was born on August 26, 1909.

NORMAN FOSTER was one of the lucky generation of Army officers who served the Crown throughout a golden age of soldiering from the run-up to the Second World War in the early 1930s to the end of the withdrawal from Empire 40 years later. Born in India, he saw the British Raj through young eyes and was inspired by its spirit of service, little realising that one day he would be one of the last British commanders of the Royal Nigerian Army.

Norman Leslie Foster was educated at Westminster School and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, where he won the Sword of Honour. Commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Artillery and being a fine horseman from his upbringing in India, he was soon selected for the elite Royal Horse Artillery and joined K Battery RHA at St John's Wood, where he led the musical drive two years running at Olympia and at King George VI's Coronation. Before the war he played cricket and hockey for the Army.

In 1939 K Battery went to France as part of the 5th Regiment RHA, with Foster as the regimental adjutant. Frustratingly, his recall to England to attend the Staff College, Camberley, coincided with Hitler's attack in the West. Much to his chagrin, he had missed his first opportunity of seeing active service.

After staff college he was immersed in the staff side of anti-invasion preparations, but made good his escape to the Middle East in July 1942 as second-in-command of the 2nd RHA in the Western Desert during the retreat to El Alamein. In September 1942 he became the GSO 1 (RA) on General Alexander's staff for the rest of the Desert War. After the fall of Tunis, he was appointed GSO 1 of the 56th Division, which was destined for Italy.

After reaching Cassino, he was overjoyed to be given command of the 154th Field Regiment RA — the Leicestershire Yeomanry — which he led with great zest throughout the rest of the Italian campaign, winning the DSO. These were some of the happiest days of his life.

After the war, in Germany he commanded the 4th RHA and was subsequently CRA of the 11th Armoured and 4th Infantry Divisions. Following

a year at the Imperial Defence College and a spell as deputy military secretary in the War Office, his career took an unexpected turn.

Without any previous experience of African troops, he was appointed GOC of the Royal West African Frontier Force, which was Nigerian-manned but still largely British-officered. Under normal circumstances this would have been a happy retirement posting, but the Suez debacle had resulted in Harold Macmillan's decision to accelerate the planned grant of independence to colonial territories by five to ten years. Nigeria was to become independent in 1960, just a year after Foster's appointment, yet the replacement of British by Nigerian officers had barely started.

With the close co-operation of the future head of state, Sir Tafawa Belawa Abubakar, and the Governor, Sir James Robertson, Foster put the reorganisation plan into action, balancing the various tribal claims reasonably successfully. On October 1, 1960, when the Union flag was lowered, the Frontier Force became the Royal Nigerian Army with Foster as its first Commander (under contract to the new Nigerian Government).

He stayed on until the end of his contract, but found himself increasingly opposed by local ministers whose sole aim was to advance their tribal interests. However, he had the satisfaction, before he left in 1962, of successfully deploying a Nigerian brigade to the Congo in support of the United Nations' peacekeeping operations.

On returning home, he was appointed president of the Army's Regular Commissions Board, retiring from the Army in 1965. Having learnt a good deal about schools, he became a consultant, then chairman and finally president of the Truman and Knightley Educational Trust.

Almost immediately after he had retired, however, the Army reclaimed his services by appointing him the first Director of Army Security in response to the national spy scandals of the 1950s and 1960s. He sought Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer's advice on how to set up the new directorate. Templer's final words to him were "when you have court-martialled a general, you will have succeeded". He never did, but his organisation still exists. He went on in 1974 to be Security Adviser to the Civil Service Department, finally retiring in 1979.

His wife Joan was killed in a car crash in 1991. Both their sons survive him.

ROBERT SHAW

Robert Shaw, LVO, architect and town planner, died on January 26 aged 81. He was born near Liverpool on May 26, 1913.

ONE of those architects whose names are unknown to the wider public, Robert Shaw nevertheless made an outstanding contribution to the amenities of London. In specialist and professional circles he was widely recognised and admired. In recent years he gave limitless time and energy to furthering the work of the Silver Jubilee Walkway Trust, of which he was chairman.

It is hard now to recall how little public access there was to the Thames at the end of Second World War. Today it is possible to walk uninterruptedly along the South Bank from Lambeth Palace to Tower Bridge, and this is the particular triumph of the Jubilee Walkway Trust. Altogether the walkway covers some 12 miles, marked by 400 metal disks in the paving and by panoramic viewing panels at intervals, which indicate the points of special interest.

It runs from Leicester Square to Lambeth Bridge, to Tower Bridge and back via the Mansion House, St Paul's,

Lincoln's Inn Fields and Covent Garden to Leicester Square again; there are "spurs" embracing the City and Bloomsbury. All of it is interesting, but the riparian, riverbank element remains its most significant feature, giving the pedestrian views of London and its buildings which had for decades been obscured.

Robert Henry Shaw was educated at the Liverpool Institute and received his professional architectural training at Liverpool University, graduating in the mid-1930s. His early practical experience was gained in the studios of Will Erdman in Berlin and Maxwell Fry in London (during the period in which Gropius had joined the practice).

As a Territorial he joined the Royal Engineers on the outbreak of the Second World War and found himself as Garrison Engineer at Windsor (where he met Princess Elizabeth and the rest of the Royal Family), before service overseas as a captain, building airfields in Iraq, Iran, Bahrain and India. This had to be done with such local materials as were to hand, with hangar-type buildings for example being constructed of bamboo.

In 1945, back in London, he



married and became principal planner in the old Ministry of Housing and Local Government (now the Department of the Environment). Here, for the next twenty years, he was head of the planning wing of

the Joint Urban Planning Group. As such he was concerned, among much else, with the first 15 New Towns, and sat on many influential committees at home and abroad.

In 1965 he moved to County Hall, as assistant chief planner, to the newly created Greater London Council, where he was to remain for the following 13 years. As those years slip into history, it is easy to forget now what a powerhouse of professional expertise was built up by the old LCC and then the GLC. Shaw had responsibility for technical work on innumerable major projects. From the first proposals for London Docklands to the Charnel Tunnel rail link to a London terminal.

At the same time he retained a particular concern for the detail of townscape and civic design, and this came through in the many ancillary activities into which he threw himself. He played an active role in both of his professions, notably on the council of the Royal Town Planning Institute, as chairman of the Land Use Society, honorary secretary of the Commonwealth Association of Planners, as a lecturer and examiner, and in extensive lecturing overseas for the British Council.

On leaving the GLC he continued to act widely as a consultant — in Nigeria, Libya, Jordan, Syria and the Cayman Islands, as well as in connection with numerous development proposals in London.

However, it may well be that it is for his connection with the Silver Jubilee Walkway Trust in London that he will be best remembered. Through the generosity of business and industry, the Queen's Jubilee in 1977 was marked in London by a series of special initiatives and events. Because of his GLC responsibility for the South

Bank Comprehensive Development Area, Shaw found himself on the environmental committee of the main Jubilee committee.

The Queen had expressed the desire for some lasting environmental improvement to come out of the celebrations and, at the suggestion of the redoubtable Max Nicholson, proposals were made for a continuous walkway through the central area of the metropolis, linking the most interesting buildings and places. Existing highways and footpaths would be used wherever possible, but new ones created, particularly along the banks of the river, where none existed.

That all this has come about is due primarily to the unremitting work put in by Robert Shaw, its chairman from the outset. He it was who obtained the support and co-operation of the various boroughs through which the walkway passes. He it was who, by his charm, courtesy and determination, secured the sponsorship of leading companies and other organisations which alone ensured the continued existence of the Trust after the demise of the GLC.

He chaired a group of distinguished trustees, but they would be the first to acknowledge that the lion's share of credit for what was achieved was due to him. It was fitting that completion of the final link of the walkway on the South Bank last November should have been marked by the presence of the Queen, and that she should have chosen the occasion to invest Shaw with the insignia of LVO.

He is survived by his wife Frances and a son.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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OBITUARY.

Among the persons of note who passed away last week was Mr. Edward Lear, the popular and humorous author and artist who achieved a very wide celebrity as the originator of the "nonsense verses" which, some years ago, were in everybody's mouth. Mr. Lear died at his residence, Villa Terenure, San Remo, at an advanced age. While he had long delighted the public by his artistic compositions and ingenious nonsense rhymes, his talent had also a more serious bent. As long ago as 1831 he published his folio work entitled "Illustrations of the Family of Ponticidae", which contained 42 lithographic plates drawn from life by the author. This was succeeded in 1831 by "Views in Rome and its Environs: drawn from Nature and on Stone." In 1851 appeared the deceased's "Journals of a Landscape Painter in Albania &c." In 1863 appeared his "Views in the Seven Ionian Islands" and during the same year was published the first of those volumes which have made Mr. Lear's name a household word. It was called "A Book of Nonsense," and it speedily ran through ten editions. In 1870 appeared the "Journal of a Landscape Painter in Corsica," and in 1871, his "Nonsense, Songs, Stories, Botany and

ON THIS DAY February 6 1888

Though Edward Lear's nonsense verses have always had a host of admirers, his talent as an artist is less well remembered. As a young man, he worked as a draughtsman in the gardens of the Zoological Society.

Alphabet. "More Nonsense, Pictures, Rhymes, Botany, &c." succeeded, and in 1872 he drew, in conjunction with Mr. J.C. Sowerby, the illustrations for Mr. Gray's work on "Tortoises, Terrapins, and Turtles." In 1877 Mr. Lear published yet another volume of quaint literary and artistic humour, under the title of "Laughable Lyrics": a fourth book of Nonsense, Poems, Songs, Botany, Music, &c.

ACCIDENT TO A LADY LION TAMER. There was an alarming occurrence in Mr. Dan Lowry's Star Music-hall, Dublin, on

Friday night. Middle Senide, the lion tamer, who for some weeks past has been exhibiting a troupe of wild animals, was taking her benefit. One of the lions was in the habit of undertaking to place her head within the mouth of one of her lions, and retaining it there for some time. When the entertainment was over, however, a photographer was in attendance to take views of her.

It required a considerable time to arrange the preliminaries, and the lion, it appears, grew impatient under the delay. Meanwhile Middle Senide was holding her head in the animal's mouth in the manner which she was in the habit of appearing before the audience, when the photographer turned on the magnesium light. The flash startled the animal, and he closed his mouth suddenly. Fortunately the lady was able to withdraw her head quickly, but her right cheek was caught by the teeth of the animal and was torn completely open, the cut extending down to the chin. The animal also placed his paw upon her shoulder, and inflicted an ugly scratch along the upper part of the chest. On Saturday morning Middle Senide sent word by her manager that she would appear that night at the music-hall, but her doctors persuaded her not to do so. She is still thought to be in some danger.

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24/11/50

CRICKET

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Thorpe brightens gloomy day for England

RUGBY UNION

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Guscott proves new hero for our time

FOOTBALL

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Parry plays listening game to complaints at Forest

RACING

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Jockey ban mars golden day for Jodami

TIMES SPORT



Klinsmann fires the first Tottenham goal past Hendry, the Blackburn Rovers defender, during the exhilarating encounter at White Hart Lane yesterday. Photographs: Marc Aspland

Benazzi clears Carling

ENGLAND will announce today what will surely be an unchanged team to play Wales in the rugby union five nations' championship in Cardiff on February 18, confident that the storm in a teacup surrounding an injured French opponent has subsided (David Hands writes).

Jean-Luc Sadourny, the France full back, was forced to leave the field at Twickenham on Saturday during England's 31-10 victory after receiving a nasty gash to the back of his left knee. The cut, caused by a stray stud, required 12 stitches and it was suggested yesterday that it could have been caused by Will Carling, the England captain.

However, media suggestions that the injury could have been deliberate collapsed when Abdelatif Benazzi admitted that he might inadvertently have damaged his colleague. After watching a video recording, Benazzi said: "It was just bad luck. It was a clean match."

At the official banquet, Bernard Lapasset, the president of the French federation, stressed the warmth of the relationship between English and French officials and praised the Twickenham crowd. "The crowd showed they could appreciate good rugby and respect an opponent," he said. "They have given a lesson of fair play to the world."

Reports, pages 26 and 27

Blackburn defeat opens up Premiership title race

Tottenham enjoy glory day

Tottenham Hotspur.....3
Blackburn Rovers.....1

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

A HALLELUJAH performance by Tottenham Hotspur, full of verve reminiscent of their glory days, put Blackburn Rovers, the leaders of the FA Cupling Premiership, to the sword yesterday.

The scoreline, thoroughly deserved, was one source of Tottenham celebration. The exhilarating commitment and movement of Barmby and Anderton were another, and as even Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, admitted, a Sunday when the referee was worthy of considerable praise was indeed a glorious day.

But when Dalglish says that his team will play worse than this and emerge with three points, he masks the manner in which the home side dug so deeply into his team. For Tottenham, combining movement with the order that Gerry Francis, the new manager, has inculcated, there were moments in the first half that surpassed what is expected of the English game.

These moments, which combined the athletic leadership of Klinsmann, the perceptive touches of Popescu, and the dashing eagerness of the wingers, set up a match that saw the league leaders concede three goals, and Blackburn have, in 13 previous away games, stifled the opposition to concede a mere eight in total.

Thus, from afar, those watching with Manchester

United close to their hearts will know that the championship lead has now been whittled down to two points. The champions' supporters will know that resilience and perseverance are the cornerstones of this Blackburn team, and that there is therefore no semblance of a white flag. But, with both teams level on games, there is now, thanks largely to Tottenham, a real race for the title in progress.

"I was a very, very proud manager in the first half," Francis said afterwards. "Not only with our exceptional inter-play and movement, but when we didn't have the ball, all that we have been working on on the training ground — closing down, tackling, defending — came into play."

Beyond that there was the touch and flow, the vivacity of Tottenham playing at high speed. Goal number one, in the 17th minute, exemplified it. Tottenham had been under pressure, Wright had crossed from the left and Shearer met

the ball in the air. But his header rebounded off Mabbitt and Anderton began the swiftest of counter-attacks. His long ball fell at the feet of Barmby. The little man ran urgently at a retreating defence, his through ball was anticipated by Klinsmann, and the German shot straight towards the advancing

Mimms, and straight through the hapless goalkeeper's legs. Now Tottenham were irresistible. They played the back heel as though it were patented at White Hart Lane, and inevitably, in the 30th minute, it was Klinsmann who set up the second goal. In fact, Anderton mis-hit his shot and poor Mimms, on his return to White Hart Lane, was stranded when the ball struck Hendry on the inside of the right thigh and changed course completely.

So, two-up at the interval, what does a manager like Francis then say to his men? "I told them we were playing the most consistent team in the league, that I was proud, but we must not concede an early goal. That worked..."

It worked against the home side. From a corner on the right, Tottenham seemed static in defence, perhaps still listening to their manager, or perhaps forgetting his warning altogether. Sutton got behind them, turned and

chipped the ball towards the far post. Shearer rose dynamically and, from his downward header, Sherwood proved deadly from six yards.

Game on. For 20 minutes Tottenham lost their belief, but fortunately not their newly engrained defensive resistance. Blackburn had lost, significantly, Ripley, whose thrust down the right is so important to their balance.

But then, after 79 minutes, Tottenham restored their two-goal advantage. Klinsmann began the move by prompting Anderton, on the right, who swung the ball perceptively towards the penalty spot and there, arriving late, Barmby was able to stoop and direct his header wide of Mimms.

Before that Klinsmann, again from an Anderton cross, had produced the most sublime of overhead kicks and Mimms, remarkably, had saved it. And, late in the game, Shearer had shaken off two defenders to beat Walker with a right-foot shot that smacked against the base of the near post.

The performances of the young Tottenham cult figures, Barmby, Anderton and possibly even Sol Campbell, will not be lost on Terry Venables. The England coach has to name a new squad today and, when he does so, all three may not be far from his mind.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): J. Walker, S. Campbell, C. Calderwood, G. Mabbitt, J. Edinburg, D. Anderton, D. Howell, G. Popescu, N. Barmby, G. S. Nathaniel, J. Kinnear, I. Sherrington.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): B. Mimms, H. Bagg, I. Pearce, C. Hendry, A. Wright, S. Ripley, M. M. M. (61), P. Westhead, T. Sherwood, J. Wilcox (sub. M. Adkins, 88), A. Shearer, C. Sutton.

Referee: M. Bodenham.

Cole strike, page 29
Bolton's quality, page 28



Barmby, the scorer of the third Tottenham goal, shrugs off the attentions of Sherwood

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England's Test failings limit Sky's success

One week ago, I wrote that it was difficult to imagine a worse start to a morning than waking to hear Bob Willis intoning that "Slater and Taylor are matching each other run for run." Yesterday, I discovered an even worse one - waking to hear Charles Colville, with hallmark boyish enthusiasm, shouting that "Slater and Taylor are matching each other run for run." At least Willis has the decency to sound depressed.

Once again, Sky Sports has been ill-rewarded for its investment in live coverage of the Ashes. Not only was the outcome decided within three games, but victory, when it arrived in the fourth Test, came from a position of such improbability that most home supporters would have gone

off to work on Monday without a backward glance at their television sets. Now, just when that win had kindled a little last-minute interest in the series, England were dropping catches like they were going out of fashion. Devon Malcolm cannot have been alone in thinking it was not his day.

Sky's coverage, technically, has been first-class, the credit for which lies largely with the splendid camera work of Channel 9. Particularly impressive have been the range of action replays. Not only is every angle seemingly covered, but the cameramen also seem to have reflexes to rival Test batsmen. Not for them the embarrassment of a camera tracking frantically towards the boundary while the ball nestles in the safe hands of first slip.



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

The BBC will have been taking notes as it prepares for England's Test series against West Indies this summer. Somewhat surprisingly, the BBC's television commentary team is already in position, although the retirement of Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting from the international arena should keep the competition for places behind the microphone keen. David Gower will again join up with Geoffrey Boycott, his former and much-missed Sky spar-

ring partner, to work alongside the tried and trusted trio of Richie Benaud, Tony Lewis and Jack Bannister.

It looks a strong team, with Gower's commentary skills much improved after his stints with Sky and Radio 5 Live in Australia, although a bit more edge is still needed.

Unlike previous years, Sky's commentary team does not get the summer off before it departs for South Africa in the autumn. John Gaillard, the producer, will set about pick-

ing his team to provide live coverage of the one-day internationals, the Benson and Hedges Cup and 14 Sunday League games as soon as he gets back from Australia.

Certain to play a key role is Sky's not-so-secret weapon, Ian Botham, of whom much is expected. The channel is saying little about how it plans to deploy Botham, but he must be a strong favourite to land one of the two weekly magazine programmes that Sky has scheduled for the summer.

Contractual commitments, either to cricket or the media, make it difficult to predict who among Sky's Ashes commentary team will be available for selection this summer. The pick of them have been Ian Chappell and Mark Nicholas, who combine technical insight with a relaxed microphone

manner, but for entertainment it has been difficult to beat the running battle that appears to have developed between the ever-excitable Colville, who has never played cricket for his country, and Dermot Reeve, who has.

Having fallen out over everything from Shane Warne's goatee ("who's Alan Rickman, Charles?") to "I thought a man of your cultural standing would know that Dermot" to catching opportunities ("It's in the air".... "Bump ball actually, Charles"), matters came to a head yesterday with Colville unwisely venturing his own thoughts on an Australia declaration. "I think the situation calls for a touch of forward planning, Dermot." An icy eloquent pause. "I disagree, Charles." Great stuff.

Offiah gives Castleford trying time with hat-trick

Wigan 46
Castleford 6

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

REMOTE as the possibility of the entire Wigan rugby league team moving to the Winfield Cup in Australia was, even that straw has been removed from the clutches of their pursuers in the Stones Bitter championship.

Even though a two-year ban on players transferring between Great Britain and Australia has come too late to prevent Phil Clarke's move to Sydney Eastern Suburbs at the end of the season, the agreement yesterday by the International Rugby League Board will halt the brawn drain from Wigan.

By way of celebration, perhaps, Wigan proceeded, a few hours later, to annihilate a

who must keep winning and hope that the champions somehow lose twice. Not only do Wigan have the easier run-in, but they are also looking more powerful by the week.

Without five regular first-team players, Castleford looked lost. The fact that Botica, who kicked a perfect nine from nine goals in all, had to land all seven of his conversions from in front of the posts, summed up the plight of the visitors' midfield defence.

Shaun Edwards was back to his creative finest, jinking off both feet to deceive the Castleford cover in the opening minutes. That gave Offiah his first try and, with no sign of trouble from his knee, Castleford bowed to his pace a second time as Botica and Paul broke free down the middle.

Castleford's sole respite came when Edwards was sent to the sin-bin for holding down Morrison. They came up with a neatly-worked score on the right by Hay just before the interval, but the second half was a depressing rout.

Easily the best try came immediately after the restart. Offiah broke from acting half-back ten yards from his line. Tuigamala rumbled down the right, with Radlinski and Edwards providing the support to splinter the home cover and put Cowie over.

Radlinski was furnished with his try courtesy of two mighty hand-offs by Tuigamala, once more careering down the right. Edwards was the instigator of two tries by Gary Connolly in ten minutes, before Offiah rounded off the show with his third touchdown after being sent clear by Cassidy.

Castleford side that also knows what it is to lose good players to Australia. Mike Ford and St John Ellis moved last year to South Queensland Crushers, but talent at Wheldon Road is not plentiful enough to take up the slack left by their departures.

Although Wigan were without the injured Farrell and Robinson, and Betts, who was captaining Great Britain in the World Sevens in Sydney, there was no appreciable difference. Radlinski, the scorer of one of Wigan's seven tries, and Houghton, another precociously talented teenager, filled in with aplomb.

Martin Offiah would have been in Sydney, too, but for a knee problem. The "will he, won't he?" question about his participation at Central Park yesterday was resolved as he scored three tries.

Once again, Wigan have a one-point lead over Leeds,



Michael Rossweiss celebrates his victory as he crosses the line in the 60 metres at the National Indoor Arena

Gibson ponders best career move

By DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IF LYNN GIBSON could give Mark Hylton one piece of advice, she would probably tell him to remain a student for as long as he can. Trying to hold down a job while paying a mortgage can weigh heavily on the shoulders of an ambitious athlete.

When the Great Britain team for the match against France in Glasgow next Saturday is announced today, it will comprise athletes from three categories: students, professionals and the in-betweeners like Gibson. For the students and professionals, training and competition are fitted neatly into the framework of life, but, for the in-betweeners, complications can set in. In the case of Gibson, work may result in her declining selection for the world indoor

championships in Barcelona next month.

Kelly Holmes, Jacqui Aggrey and Melanie Neef are examples of athletes in the improving British women's team who have recently discovered the benefits of loosening the shackles of their day jobs. Gibson, who retained her AAA of England indoor 1,500 metres title in Birmingham on Saturday, would like to be next.

However, while Gibson continues to work as a marketing officer for her local council in Andover, her chances of rising to elite level are diminished. To race abroad, she must eat into her holiday time, of which there is not enough to sustain a year of progressive international competition.

From her 1994-95 allocation, she has only five days remaining. "I do not want to take any more because I do not feel I

have taken any holiday yet," she said. "If it means I have got to take leave, I probably will not go to the world indoors."

Gibson, 25, feels that she needs overseas races. "The problem with this country is that you do not get the fast races," she said. "To run the times I want, I feel I need to go full-time." Then, she could train twice every day instead of only on three days a week. "But it would be such a gamble," she said. "I have got a mortgage and I would have no income."

For the moment, any similar worries for Hylton are in the future, but, as Britain's latest 400 metres discovery, he should be aware that even Roger Black went through a difficult time financially as a full-time athlete before his re-emergence from injury last year.

Aged 18 and a student in leisure and tourism in Slough, Hylton was the only junior winner in Birmingham. He looks an outstanding bet to become Britain's sixth successive European junior outdoor champion this summer, following Black, Crampton, McDonald, Grindley and Bullock. His 46.56sec left him clear of Brian Whittle and Jacques Farraudiere and was only 0.02sec slower than Du'aine Ladejo's winning time last year.

Solomon Wariso broke Linford Christie's 200 metres championship record with 20.37sec and Kate Staples raised her Commonwealth pole vault record to 3.80 metres. Being Zodiac in *Gladys* is better than the average day job for the in-between athlete. Beats working for the council, anyway.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Coe's indoor 800m record falls at last

SEBASTIAN COE'S European indoor 800 metres record of 1min 44.91sec, which was set at RAF Cusford on March 12, 1983, was beaten at last in Stuttgart yesterday when Nico Motchebon, of Germany, improved it by 0.05sec. Motchebon, 25, a former modern pentathlete, was just 0.04sec outside the world record that was set by Paul Ereng, of Kenya, at the 1989 world indoor championships in Budapest.

Motchebon upstaged a superb run by John Regis in the 200 metres. Regis recorded 20.47sec, shaving 0.07sec off the British record he set in Lorient, France, in 1987 and equalled in Budapest two years later.

Colin Jackson maintained his unbeaten 60 metres hurdles record, stretching back to August 1993, but only just. The Welshman was bracketed on the same time, 7.44sec, as Allen Johnson, of the United States, with Tony Jarrett third.

England lose first game

HOCKEY: Kazakhstan beat England 1-0 in the India Gandhi tournament in Delhi on Saturday. Baltabaev claimed the winner from a short corner after 60 minutes. Afterwards, David Whitaker, the England coach, said: "I was disappointed, but we have a very inexperienced side. We need more exposure and Kazakhstan was no mean side. They had some experienced international players." India beat Malaysia 2-1 in the other game in group A. Yesterday, in group B, South Korea overcame South Africa 4-3 while a second-string Australia team outclassed Poland 5-0.

Hounslow's hopes of topping the first division table in the national league were dashed when they lost 1-0 to Canterbury yesterday. Bloxham scored the decisive goal.

Jones willing to tour

CRICKET: Dean Jones, right, the captain of Victoria, said yesterday that he would be available for Australia's tour to the West Indies. Jones, a former Test player, scored an unbeaten 324 in Victoria's on-going Sheffield Shield match against South Australia, and has made 1,041 runs this season, averaging 86.75. Michael Slater is doubtful for the tour, having broken his right thumb yesterday.



America's Cup halted

YACHTING: The America's Cup trials off San Diego were halted on Saturday when the American aircraft carrier, *Abraham Lincoln*, loomed out of thick fog on the course and finished within 200 yards of the start line and a 70-strong spectator fleet. The first pair of race yachts, *Team New Zealand* and *France 3*, were making almost ten knots when the 1,092ft carrier came into sight. The coastguard allowed them to continue and Russell Coutts and his crew chalked up their ninth successive victory.

Olympic winner dies

GODFREY BROWN, who anchored Britain's gold medal-winning 4x400 metres relay team at the 1936 Olympic Games, died on Saturday after a short illness. He was 79. In the same Games - in Berlin - Brown won the silver medal in the 400 metres. Jimmy Allen, a former England defender who once set the British transfer record at £10,000, has died aged 85. Allen played for Portsmouth against Manchester City in the 1934 FA Cup Final. Portsmouth were leading 1-0 when Allen went off with concussion, but then lost 2-1.

Tomba sets record

SKIING: Alberto Tomba won his tenth World Cup race of the season in familiar style on Saturday, overturning a first-run deficit of 0.34sec to pip Jure Kosir, of Slovenia, by 0.07sec in the giant slalom at Adelboden, Switzerland. Harald Strand-Nielsen, of Norway, led the field after the first run with Kosir in third. Tomba, whose victory set a personal season-record, had trouble finding his rhythm, but gained fractions of a second on the icy final third of the Kuonisberg piste.

Faldo in contention

GOLF: Nick Faldo, right, lay in joint sixth place after recording a 69, three under par, in the third round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am tournament in California. Kenny Perry shot a steady 67, including an eagle at the 2nd, to go 13 under par overall and take a three-stroke lead in the event, which is taking place over three courses. Faldo, who played at Spyglass Hill, is four strokes behind.



Hightown get revenge

HOCKEY: Hightown ended a year-long wait to settle a score when they beat Slough 4-2 yesterday to win the national women's clubs indoor championships at Crystal Palace. In the final last year, Slough edged through in a penalty shoot-out. The scorers for Hightown yesterday were Linda Carr, with two, Lorraine Marsden and Jackie Crook, with Sue Chandler and Sam Wright replying for the champions.

Waldner tops 12

TABLE TENNIS: Jan-Ove Waldner, of Sweden, the former world and Olympic champion, won the European Top 12 championship in Dijon yesterday for a record sixth time. Waldner, 29, easily the best European player over the past decade, beat Erik Lindh, also of Sweden, 15-21, 21-14, 21-15, 18-21, 21-17 in the final. He had held the previous best figure of five titles and has also been runner-up four times.

Twin triumph for Foster

SWIMMING: Mark Foster, of Great Britain, beat Danyon Loader, of New Zealand, to win the 100 metres freestyle at the World Cup short-course meeting in Paris on Saturday. Foster finished in 48.82sec and then won the 50 metres butterfly in 23.80sec - just outside his own world record. Sandra Volker, of Germany, improved her European short-course record for 50 metres backstroke, clocking 27.77sec.

Prenn sneaks through

RACKETS: John Prenn, the former world champion, survived a surprisingly close tussle with David Makey, the Tonbridge professional, before reaching the second round of the Laconie British Open championship in five close games. Peter Brake, the No 3 seed, who recently won the professional singles championship, beat Alex Smith-Bingham in straight games to reach the quarter-finals.

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Bears gloom deepens

By NICHOLAS HARLING

WITHOUT Herman Harried, their 6ft 7in American, whose injured right hand is still in plaster, the season for Worthing Bears has gone from mediocre to bad. But for their bright start, the Budweiser basketball championship play-off winners last season might not even be contemplating the play-offs this year.

The Bears had fallen victims to the Budweiser League upset of the season in mid-week at Hemel Hempstead. The last thing they then needed was a home match with a London Towers squad which had already beaten them three times this season. The Towers won 89-79, having made up arrears of ten points midway through the third quarter. "Take away the 22 points and 15 rebounds that Herman usually gives us, and we were always going to be

struggling," Neil McElford, the Worthing assistant coach, said. He is banking on Harried being fit to face Sheffield Sharks, the leaders, on Saturday.

Sharing second place with the Towers in the league are Thames Valley Tigers, the defending champions, who followed up their home victory over Birmingham Bulls on Friday by winning 109-95 at Hemel Hempstead Royals.

Four of the five bottom clubs were involved in head-to-head matches, but that did nothing to dampen enthusiasm. Sunderland Scorpions, climbed off the foot of the table by defeating Chester Jets 101-91. Derby Bucks ended Leicester City Riders' play-off hopes by winning 82-73, having laid the foundations in a 20-0 burst, highlighted by Jason Siemon's three dunks in a minute.

McManus regrets costly slip

By PHIL YATES

ALAN McMANUS was left rueing an unfortunate positional shot after narrowly failing to compile a 147 maximum break in the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

McManus began the defence of his snooker title by reaching the quarter-finals with a 5-3 victory over David Roe, of Derby. He could not, however, conceal his disappointment after letting slip an opportunity to win a Jaguar car and the £10,000 prize for the highest break.

The Scot, trailing 3-2, potted thirteen reds and thirteen blacks for a run of 194 only to suffer a cruel nudge on the penultimate red which left him aiming for no more than half a pocket and using the rest.

"That's the best chance I have ever had for a 147 in my

life," McManus, who missed the red by some distance, said. "I was already picking the colour of the car in my head. The only good thing is that I have got through, because coming back to an event as the champion puts you under a lot of pressure."

McManus, unusually vulnerable to unforced errors in the early frames, pulled away from 3-3 with solid breaks of 49, in the seventh, and 59, in the eighth.

John Higgins, surprised at his failure to secure one of four wildcard invitations to the Benson and Henson Irish Masters next month, again displayed his fighting qualities to beat Tony Drago, of Malta, 5-3 in the first round.

Higgins, 19, fell 3-0 behind after only 22 minutes as Drago dominated the initial exchanges with lightning-fast runs of 77, 89 and, in the second frame, a 132 total clearance. However, Higgins, the winner of the Skoda Grand Prix in October and runner-up to Steve Davis in the Regal Welsh Open eight days ago, won the fourth frame on the black, after Drago had missed it with his hand on the table.

Breaks of 62, 79, 106 and 68 then helped Higgins to win the following four frames by comfortable margins and set up a second-round meeting with Darren Morgan, the No 8 seed. "Being left out of the Irish event has made me even more determined to do well down here," Higgins said. "It was a really high quality match and once I won that fourth frame I felt I could pull it out of the fire."

Results first round: J Higgins (Scot) 5-0 A Drago (Malta) 5-3, A McManus (Scot) 5-0 P Roe (Eng) 5-3

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Wolverhampton wander into trouble as Endsleigh League promotion struggles take their toll

Bolton bear stamp of Premiership quality

Bolton Wanderers 5
Wolverhampton W 1

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

GRAHAM TAYLOR looked like a man who had discovered something unsettling but was not ready to let on. He smiled, as he often does, and spoke generously of Bolton Wanderers' many qualities, which is not difficult. His players had been summarily dismissed by opponents more skilful and clever than his and the realisation stung him.

Wolverhampton may yet be promoted. They have money, support and, in Taylor, a manager who knows his way through the gimmicks and snickets of league football. Do not bank on it, though.

Bolton demonstrated vividly on Saturday why they are regarded as the best team outside the FA Carling Premiership, and now that they are top of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, they have the points to support that view.

When a side plays as well as Bolton did, in a match that held such significance for both teams, one must rejoice. They did not kick. They did not argue with the referee. They did not whip up the crowd into a mite of resentment. They just got hold of the ball and passed it all afternoon over a pig of a pitch. It was wonderful to behold.

All who truly care about the style and quality of our football will rally to their side. Over three seasons, in which time they have earned one promotion and enjoyed a famous FA Cup run, they have grown organically. In the process, they have held on to young players like Alan Stubbs and Jason McAteer, who are highly prized. The impression is that they, and others, are happy to belong to such a harmonious club. This sense of comradeship, which they carry on to the field, offers a bracing contrast to so much of the greed and tackiness elsewhere that breaches the supporters' trust.

Stubbs looks a tremendous prospect. Time and again, he played his way out of trouble, not with an aimless hoof but with a pass looked for and accomplished with a natural swing of the foot, right or left, in the manner of a golfer taking a practice swing. Alongside him, Coleman enjoyed a terrific game, re-establishing Bolton's lead before half-time with the nod of a head that repeatedly defied all that Wolverhampton could throw at him.

Yes, for all their goals, the man Bolton had to thank most



Coleman leaps high above the Wolverhampton defence to score Bolton's second goal during their impressive victory at Burnden Park

for victory was Brannagan, the goalkeeper. At 1-1, Wolverhampton were in the game. Indeed, there was one stretch

of the first half when they appeared to have more men on the field, and in Embien, the tall midfielder player, they had a man keen to take things over.

In the 32nd minute, he arrived in the Bolton penalty area to shoot powerfully from 15 yards, so powerfully that he sensed the ball was going into the top corner. Brannagan got the faintest of touches to the ball, diverting it over the bar.

With the game balanced so finely, his save enabled Bolton to regroup, and when, five minutes later, Coleman bene-

fited from a well-worked corner play, football poured out of them.

Over the years, Bolton's reputation as a refuge for flinty defenders has taken some living down. "You can push the ball past me," Roy Hartle once told Tom Finney, "and you can run past me, but you're not going together." It was Hartle who left the young Mike Summerbee lying on the cinder track at Burnden Park, bruised and wiser. Summerbee instantly vowed to "look after myself better," which he duly did. Others were not so lucky.

Reputations, once gained, can be misleading. There have always been good footballing

teams at Bolton. Ian Greaves was responsible for the last one, which won promotion on Blackburn's ground in May 1978 after heroic failures in each of the two previous seasons. The moment things got tough in the first division, Greaves was sacked and it has taken the arrival of Bruce Rioch to redirect the club.

The team Rioch is developing is no less pleasant to watch and, crucially, it has younger men, fresher legs. Neither can Colin Todd's influence as coach be discounted. "He's taught me never to be afraid of playing," Stubbs, who has learned more than most, said. So much, in fact, that a call-up

to the full England squad is imminent.

"Don't be afraid to play" is not a bad maxim. In the second half, their sails nicely filled with goals from Phillips — a cracking 25-yarder — and Coyle, Bolton pulled Wolverhampton around at will, Lee, twisting away from challenges, stretched them on the right, Thompson, on the other side, invited defenders to confront him, confident in his ability to fool them. His was the final goal, scored emphatically with a raking shot.

Sneekes, the Dutchman, had opened the scoring with a shot no less emphatic after Lee and Thompson linked at a corner. Indeed, Sneekes pep-

pered the visitors' goal in the first half-hour with forceful shots and contributed fully in a robust, old-fashioned way. Bolton may play decent football, but they are not a soft bunch. Anyone going to Burnden will see a good, old-fashioned game and, to put yourself in the right mood, visit one of the two pie shops opposite the ground. They are magnificent.

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Brannagan — S Green, A Stubbs, S Coleman, J Phillips — J McAteer, R Sneekes, D Lee, O Coyle — M Ptaszek, A Thompson.
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (4-3-3): P Jones — P Blades, J Coyle, B Lee, A Thompson — N Embien (sub: T Bennett, 70min), G Coward, R Derrington — D Goodman, D Kelly, L Mills (sub: G Thomas, 60min).
Referee: J Kirby

Brentford fail to impress in leading role

Brighton 1
Brentford 1

By MEL WEBB

THE point that Brentford gathered from this match meant that they lost a short-lived top placing in the Endsleigh Insurance League second division table. And if the jittery display they produced at the Goldstone Ground on Saturday was a by-product of the responsibilities of leadership, then it was perhaps as well for them that they did.

For a side that, before the game, had scored 54 goals this season, more than any other in the division, they were curiously diffident after they had taken a deserved lead in the first half through Bailey. Indeed, they were pegged back by an aggressive Brighton side for much of the second period, and when Brighton equalised, six minutes after the break, albeit with a headed own goal by Bates, it was no more than they deserved.

Teams often mirror the personal footballing philosophy of their manager, but not in this case. Liam Brady's Brighton have a certain style about them, but, more than that, they are a living embodiment of the work ethic. Brentford, on the other hand, might be expected to be as hard and craggy as David Webb, their manager, was as a player.

Instead, they play with an elegance and sophistication that is not always the way to succeed in the lower reaches of the league. Even when defending, as they were forced to here, they do not succumb to the temptation to clog the ball mindlessly out of the danger zone. It seems, gratifyingly, to be working.

Perhaps the pivotal moment in the match came with six minutes left. Ashby, the Brentford central defender, sweeping Bailey's free kick into the net, only to have the effort nullified by Clive Wilkes, the referee. Brentford were too surprised to complain very much, beyond drawing the attention of a linesman that he had seen "a little player" offside as the kick was taken.

Afterwards, not even Brighton admitted to spotting the mysterious diminutive offender. "He must have been a very little player, because I didn't see him," Brady said. "If I had had that goal disallowed for my team, I would have been

highly unhappy." True to his manager's suit, however, Brady was soon back in "our boys" mode. "I still say that it would have been a bit of a travesty if we had lost," he said. On balance, he was right, and Webb all but agreed.

"They're a seasoned side and I knew it wouldn't be easy down here, but I thought we resisted pretty well in the second half when they were coming at us," he said.

One of those experienced players, Foster, the veteran centre back, was as he ever was — tough, head-banded, uncompromising and booked. It was his sixth yellow card of the season, and before long he will be missing for two games.

Webb looks like being without one of his central defenders for a spell, too. Ashby went down near the edge of his own penalty area in stoppage time and Wilkes ruled that play should continue without anybody coming to the player's assistance.

"It makes me furious," Webb said. "Is the referee a doctor, too? What annoys me is that he was more or less saying there was nothing wrong with him. In fact, it looks as if he's torn a muscle — his thigh's up like a balloon. My players are not cheats, and for him to make a judgment that the lad was not injured is quite disgraceful."

Do not worry unduly, Mr Wilkes, for you are in good company. If the last couple of weeks are anything to go by and enraged managers are to be believed, none of your colleagues are up to much, either.

BRIGHTON (4-4-2): N Rust, P Smith, S Foster, P McCarthy, S Todd, M Charnborough (sub: S Murray, 80min), J Milton, S Myall, I Chapman, J McDougall, K Nogan.
BRENTFORD (4-4-2): K Dorrance, C Hutchings, J Bates, B Ashby, M Granger (sub: D McGee, 80), O Bailey, D Murdoch, S Ratcliffe, P Stephenson (sub: B Shephard, 70), R Taylor, N Foster.
Referee: C White.



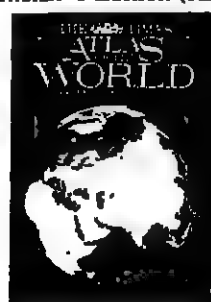
Webb: critical of referee

THE TIMES

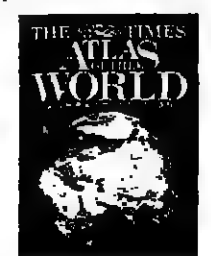
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Branfoot rising in lower reaches

Fulham 1
Bury 0

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

IAN BRANFOOT, the Fulham manager, scanned the results sheet on Saturday and sighed, the mock disappointment immediately detectable. "Look at that," he said. "Southampton only drew. What a shame." Though he argues otherwise, the hurt from an ultimately torrid 2½-year spell at The Dell, and subsequent dismissal, still lingers beneath the tough-as-teak veneer.

Not that he wishes ill on the Southampton majority. "It's a lovely club with a lot of good people," he said. What rankles deep down, a year on, is the abusive power of the terraces that persuaded the powers

Full results and league tables Page 30

that be that he should seek employment elsewhere. A vitriolic campaign culminated in a club fanzine printing the eternal damnation: "Hope you die soon".

Branfoot dwells momentarily on the past. "It's part of the job," he said. "It's a yob culture, the only thing they know. Supporters are less tolerant and more hostile than they used to be."

After daring to drop Le Tissier and preferring a direct, combative style of play, Branfoot rarely captivated the Southampton cognoscenti. "They wanted an Alan Ball or a Mick Channon, an ex-Southampton player, to take over," he said. "It was a case of Ian Who? when I joined. I was on a loser from the start."

Branfoot, 48, now faces familiar problems in a familiar environment, not dissimilar to when he led Reading from

nowhere to an old third division title in 1986 and a Simod Cup triumph in 1988 before also parting company, acrimoniously, with his paymasters. Fulham are London's lowest-ranked league club and Craven Cottage is craving success.

Branfoot does not concern himself with the pressing financial matters on the banks of the Thames: the £7.5 million needed to buy the ground from the Royal Bank of Scotland and the planning application for radical redevelopment going before Hammersmith council later this month. Jimmy Hill, OBE, chairman and football guru, and Bill Muddymann, moneyman and vice-chairman, look after such issues.

Branfoot is more entwined in the pursuit of a play-off place in the Endsleigh Insurance League third division. Fulham are competitive, a Branfoot trait, and have amassed 67 bookings and three sendings-off this season. Hurlock, their midfield player, leads the league's bad boys with 14 cautions — reason for him to sit it out on Saturday because of suspension. His absence, though, proved immaterial: Bury's threat was barely more than minimal.

Kelly, their goalkeeper, gallantly maintained the status quo with a succession of athletic saves until the 56th minute, when Thomas's hooked volley from 20 yards flew in off the crossbar. Bury's only other notable contribution was the eccentric display of Daws, a substitute, who came on in the 66th minute, was booked in the 82nd and sent off in the 88th. The shame he expressed, as he trooped off, head bowed, to the dressing-room, was genuine.

FULHAM (4-4-2): J Stanard — D Jupp, M Skuse, K Moore, F Angus — J Marshall, L Thomas, S Morgan, G Grant — R Harrist, N Durrant.
BURY (4-4-2): G Kelly — M Jackson (sub: N Daws, 60min), C Luckett, I Hughes, R Stanek — A Kelly, R Mudge, L Johnson, D Fugh — M Carter, J Poshell (sub: P Stan, 60).
Referee: D Orr.

Ambitious Canvey repeating their past

CANVEY Island came to prominence by reaching the semi-finals of the FA Vase two seasons ago (Walter Gammie writes). Since then, they have won promotion from the Essex Senior League to the Diadora League, but they have not lost their appetite for the Vase as they showed by marching into the quarter-finals again on Saturday with a 3-0 victory.

Stamco, their opponents from the Unijet Sussex League who, in the previous round, had beaten Tiverton Town — Canvey's conquerors in that semi-final — fielded six former Football League players. Yet they were undone by an eye-catching display by Andy Jones, a home-grown Island talent.

Jones, a crop-haired, quicksilver slip of a striker, combined with Tony Mahoney, straggly-haired and more substantial, as befits another ex-League elder statesman, and caused Stamco endless problems on a pitch resembling a beach.

Canvey settled quickly and scored a second-minute goal. Lee's long ball from the right picked out Dizzy, who drifted away from Chivers, chested the ball down and skipped round Winterion. In the 35th minute, Jones streaked away from Farrer and squared to Mahoney, whose fierce volley was stopped by Winterion only for Jones to dart in and head home the rebound.

Five minutes from time, Mahoney played a splendid first-time ball over the defence for Jones to hare away again. Winterion, defiant all afternoon, blocked well, but the ball ran across for Pizey to stroke into an empty net.

Boli puts powerful case at heart of Rangers defence

Basile Boli's head has been one of the principal weapons of modern football. It was used to despicable effect when the France international centre back butted Stuart Pearce, of England, during the 1992 European championship, and employed for glory, a year later, as he rose at the near post to flick Marcelle's winner against AC Milan in the European Cup final.

In Scotland, however, since the £2.5 million move to Rangers last summer, there have been many doubts about Boli's ability to keep his head. Walter Smith, the manager at Ibrox, explained at the time of the signing that he had bought Boli to add aggression to the defence. He has not been short-changed, but the channelling of the newcomer's undoubted vigour has posed him problems.

Despite an ordering-off against Hibernian, for two bookable offences, there has been nothing vindictive about Boli. It was impetuosity that initially marred his performances. In early matches for Rangers, he tended to play to the gallery, occasionally gesturing with clenched fist. A touch of the theatricals can be agreeable, but Boli was in danger of believing in his own melodrama.

There were comic book charges downfield, which left the rest of the back four abandoned, and when Boli did stick to his main job, he was still inclined to lunge at opponents. He is a practitioner of horizontal defending and all those sliding challenges make you wonder whether the club have had to reinforce the seat of his shorts.

Rangers may also have pondered the usefulness of a gag when they encountered another facet of Boli's impulsive character. After this season's European Cup debacle against AEK Athens, he was said to have made critical

remarks to the French press about Rangers' tactics and preparation. On closer inspection, these proved not to be quite so lurid as originally reported in British newspapers. Even so, they were hardly prudent.

Of late, however, Boli's desire for intervention has begun to be of service to his club. The histrionics have been scaled down to sensible enthusiasm and the defender's readiness to make a quick tackle was precisely what Rangers required at Ibrox on Saturday. Smith's side did swiftly equalise through Robertson after Dundee United had taken a 23rd-minute lead with Nixon's goal, but the visitors' darting counter-attacks called for vigilance all afternoon, vigilance

serves whatever praise and blame is due for the construction of Eric Cantona. Roux is clearly a connoisseur of individualists.

Boli plays and lives with a passion, but the desire to confront the world has many beneficiaries. His Basile Boli Foundation, for example, employs four doctors who help young drug addicts in his native Abidjan as well as Paris and Marseille. The Rangers defender is also associated with AIDS charities in Africa.

Anyone who saw him, soon after arriving at Ibrox, with his torso pushed out of the rear window of a car while he braced himself with an arm thrown across the roof, could have guessed that he will never suffer from restrictions or petty prudence. As his form improves, it would be agreeable to report that Boli's nerve will prove a valuable ingredient in the Rangers team.

In reality, the long-term future looks much less certain. The UEFA restrictions, which allow only three foreigners per team in European Cup ties, may eventually threaten him. Managers who possess Rangers' resources are always likely to have misgivings about handing one of these precious places to a mere central defender.

With an Englishman and a Dane — Mark Hateley and Brian Laudrup — at the heart of Rangers' strategy, the arrival of another non-Scott would present Boli with a challenge, yet Smith has already said that he is intent on making just such a signing.

The purchase of Alan McLaren, the defender, from Heart of Midlothian has made it all the simpler for Rangers to contemplate omitting their Frenchman from the European Cup. If Boli's love of the battle extends to a struggle for selection, he may just have come to the right club.

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

that ultimately earned the premier division leaders a 1-1 draw.

Boli's alacrity was precisely what Rangers required. He has always been a battler, growing up in the sort of circumstances that in the movies at least turn a man into heavyweight champion of the world. Although born in the Ivory Coast, his family soon moved to the immigrant ghetto of Romainville on the edge of Paris.

He has spoken frankly of his childhood, of petty theft as well as fare dodging on the Metro. Boli was turned into a footballer by the extraordinary youth policy operated by Guy Roux at Auxerre, which also de-

United struggle on in Cantona's shadow

Manchester United 1
Aston Villa 0

By Peter Ball

ALEX FERGUSON broke his silence on Eric Cantona. Mark Hughes signed a new contract and Andy Cole collected a bruised eye and his first goal for Manchester United — but if United's strikers dominated the headlines, defenders dominated the play at Old Trafford on Saturday. Gary Pallister and Paul McGrath ensuring that Cole's goal decided a scrappy match.

Cantona is in the West Indies on holiday, but even from that distance, his effect on United is inescapable on and off the field as the champions come to terms with his absence. "We must show there is life after Eric," Ferguson wrote in

his programme notes, after expressing his regrets for the now notorious incident at Selhurst Park that led to the Frenchman's suspension.

Was that a Freudian slip? "If we wanted Eric to go, we would have put him on the transfer list, but we haven't done that," Martin Edwards, the United chairman, said, but his denial was hedged with qualifications. "We can't prejudice what the Football Association commission [which is dealing with the matter] will do. Also, we don't know how Eric will be with this long lay-off, where his mind is going to be, what his attitude is going to be when the ban starts to take place."

Cantona's absence has already changed Mark Hughes's situation, the Frenchman's suspension and uncertain future persuading United to give Hughes the new, two-year contract he sought. "Mark is a

quality player and one of the reasons we were letting him go was that, sooner or later, we had to make a start to resolve our need for English players in European competition," Edwards said.

"But things have changed. The league's in jeopardy, the FA Cup is in jeopardy, so the European problem goes out the window, because, if you fall in your domestic competitions, you don't have the problem. At the end of the day, you can't let things go."

The decision was, at least, immensely popular with the supporters. Before the start, they gave Hughes an ovation almost to match the one that greeted Cole's goal. However, how the old and new striker will work together may decide United's hopes of retaining the FA Carling Premiership title. "I'm looking forward to it," Cole

said. "He [Hughes] likes to get the ball and hold it up and, if he plays it back, it might give me the chance to get in behind defences."

Apart from his goal, Cole gave some reasons for optimism in an otherwise poor performance by United. His movement and touch belied the suggestion that he does not contribute in other areas.

His run and driven low cross should have provided United with an early lead, but Sharpe somehow hit the post with the goal gaping — a sign of the way things went for United all afternoon, especially after the departure of Giggs, the victim of a Fashanu "nicker".

"After the first 25 minutes, we were never in the game; we churned out a victory," Ferguson confessed. "It was a vital one, because half the team didn't play as well as they can, and, when you get a result like that,

it's as good a sign as you can get in terms of chasing the championship."

The message for Villa is more worrying. They dictated play, controlling the game in a way few teams manage at Old Trafford, but they ended up with nothing. With McGrath in imperious mood at the back, Taylor and Townsend winning the midfield battle so comprehensively that Sharpe and Scholes both felt compelled to supplement United's forces there, they laid siege to United's goal, forcing 15 corners.

Yet, for all their possession, Villa's attacks broke down on the rock at the centre of United's defence. Saunders hit the bar, Johnson later scuffed a good chance, but once Fashanu had been stretched out accompanied by a yellow card, Pallister stood head and shoulders above the Villa attack. He found

time to bring the ball out in the manner of Alan Hansen and his presence in Villa's penalty area, where he met Giggs's corner with a downward header, also produced United's goal. Cole pounced to hook a volley into the net and was promptly engulfed by his teammates, revealing the importance of the goal — and the popularity of the scorer.

"The team spirit is really great," Cole said. "I know we are going to miss Eric, but if the boys win the championship, we'll do it for Eric and that's why we are all pulling together."

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmeichel — G. Neale (sub D. Lay, 60min), S. Bruce, G. Pallister, S. Taylor — R. Green (sub A. Kanchelski, 45), S. H. O'Grady, P. Hodge, C. Sharpe — P. Scholes, A. Cole. **ASTON VILLA (4-4-2):** M. Bosnich — G. Charnley, P. McGovern, S. Taylor, S. Small — D. Voth (sub R. Houghton, 61), J. Taylor, A. Townsend, S. Scahill — D. Saunders, Fashanu (sub T. Johnson, 41). Referee: D. Elmer.



Cole: first goal

Keegan's sale forfeits Newcastle's credibility

Simon Barnes on a 3-0 defeat by Queens Park Rangers that confirmed supporters' worst fears

The FA Carling Premiership is a foolish competition. It is based on a series of mismatches, because the top division is in fact two divisions in one. There are less than a dozen clubs seriously trying to win the damn thing; there are about a dozen whose first, if not only, ambition, is simply to stay in the FA Carling Premiership.

Of course, football being football, nothing ever goes entirely to plan. Any club in the second category is capable of putting together a fine season, and might — just — achieve a place in Europe.

However, that does not mean that, the following year, they will take the next step and play for the Premiership title. They will be back fighting to avoid relegation, hoping for mid-table respectability and the chance of a cup run.

This is normally because something has happened to their best player, the player around whom their strategy was based, on whom their self-belief has been grounded. He has been sold. So you need a new strategy, a new superstar, and a new source of self-belief. These things are not to be had for the asking.

Because, when it comes down to it, you are either a Premiership contender or you are not. In the present jargon, you are either a buying club or a selling club. This is more than a sense of economics; it is a sense of corporate identity, something that affects supporters, board, management and team. What happens if a buying club loses track of the kind of club it wants to be?

Well, for a start, it gets beaten 3-0 by Queens Park Rangers. Newcastle United started the season with a crazed bolt from the starting stalls: everyone's favourites to break the hold Manchester United have had on the Premiership and on the public imagination.

Newcastle, bursting back into the top division after lurking about outside it for

years, were still a selling club, to the pain and frustration of a footballing town. They had changed at last the colour of their dreams. They surfed to the top of the Premiership, and then hit crisis. It was not a crisis of finance, but of identity. The born-again buying club decided to sell.

The sale of Andy Cole for the famous £7 million may yet end up as one of the great managerial coups of all time, but in the short term it has cost Newcastle their sense of purpose: more, of self-worth. The sale sent a message into the marrow of the team: we are a selling club, mere lackeys to the great.

Meanwhile, Queens Park Rangers have never had a tradition of greatness, never born the weight of supporters' expectations. They have, over 25 years or so, instead established a tradition of intelligence, of style in defiance of comparative obscurity. They produce good, even some great, players. And generally, it must be said, they sell them.

Not a day goes by without speculation as to when, not if, Rangers will sell Les Ferdinand. The fantasy football of tabloid transfer speculation has a dozen times clad Ferdinand, a frank, fearless and skilful leader of the line, in Newcastle colours. A man who has the rare quality in football: not skill, not chivalry, not toughness, but — does it come from cold nerve or boiling appetite? — of certainty in front of goal. It would almost be like replacing Andy Cole with Andy Cole.

Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager, is fed up with all this talk. He is particularly fed up with the kind of footballing folk who ring up the club and berate switchboard operators about the sale of Ferdinand. The aridity of English winter, the rationality of footballing man.

If Newcastle were considering returning to the buying club half of the great divide, Ferdinand put on a memora-

QPR 2 NEWCASTLE 0



Ferdinand, right, is congratulated by Impey after putting Queens Park Rangers 2-0 ahead at Loftus Road

ble display of salesmanship at Loftus Road on Saturday. He scored two goals in seven minutes, both taken with the certainty that cannot be coached. Only bought.

By the eighteenth minute, Newcastle were 3-0 down, with Barker's looping header. It might have been many more, Newcastle suffered the kind of thumping that destroys seasons, and teams.

They had some reasons for their disarray, with nine players unavailable with injuries, suspensions or flu. Reasons are different from excuses. Of the latter, they had none. Nor did Kevin Keegan, their manager, seek them. "When we have a team as good as our fans' well be something," he said. "We're not there yet."

With the sale of Cole, Newcastle effectively opted out as Premiership title contenders. This was either an act of colossal folly or part of the canny of canny plans. Perhaps Keegan has his eye on

young Gallen, partnering Ferdinand in the Rangers front line, a player all potential at 19, with a nice line in through balls to Ferdinand. Or why not buy both? This could turn out to be a top-class partnership. But it is in the nature of the Premiership that it will probably be broken up before long.

Queens Park Rangers know exactly who they are: a goodish team who should be able to stage off relegation if they play like this, who may be able to hang on to Ferdinand for another season and a tilt at Europe.

Newcastle remind me (Pseud's Corner please note) of that Gauguin entitled pitifully: "Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?" Ayé, canny questions, man.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): A. Roberts — D. Burdett, A. McDermott, D. Macleod, R. Bennett — T. Sinclair, A. Barker, J. Houghton, A. Impey — L. Ferdinand (sub D. Dwyer, 60min), K. Gallen. **NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-3-3):** M. Hoggan — M. Hoggan, S. Thompson, A. Hoggan, R. Elliot — K. Gillespie, P. Bradwell, L. Clark — R. Lee — P. Beardsley, P. Wilson (sub A. Marshall, 49). Referee: H. Cooper (Pennypride).

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1 Blackburn	27	59	+34	WLWDL
2 Manchester Utd	27	57	+27	WDWDW
3 Newcastle	27	46	+18	DDWWL
4 Liverpool	26	47	+14	WLWDW
5 Nottingham Forest	27	46	+13	WLWDL
6 Tottenham	26	42	+12	WWWWL
7 Leeds	26	38	+6	DDWDD
8 Sheffield Wed	27	39	+3	DDWWL
9 Wimbledon	26	36	-9	DDWLD
10 Norwich	26	34	-7	WLWDL
11 Arsenal	27	33	-7	LDWDL
12 Chelsea	26	32	-9	DDDL
13 Manchester City	26	31	-6	DDDL
14 Aston Villa	27	31	-4	DWWWL
15 Southampton	26	28	-5	DDDDD
16 Crystal Palace	27	28	-6	LWLDW
17 QPR	26	30	-6	DWLLW
18 Everton	27	30	-9	DWDLW
19 West Ham	26	28	-9	WLLWL
20 Coventry	27	28	-20	LDLDD
21 Ipswich	27	20	-26	WWDLL
22 Leicester	26	18	-21	LLWL

Weekly change: Up Stayed the same Down

Adams suffers unjustly for imitator's art

Sheffield Wednesday 3
Arsenal 1

By Keith Pike

SO, TO George Graham's six glorious years and six bad months can be added 45 mind-blowingly frustrating minutes and one bizarre sending-off, the latter probably turning this match. Whatever else the Arsenal manager might be guilty of, receiving unsolicited gifts from Mystic Meg was not something he could hold his hands up to on Saturday.

Lucky Arsenal? Hardly. They finished the game with nine men and, at this rate, would not win the National Lottery if they bought all the tickets. Boring Arsenal! Dito. "They came here with four attackers and we knew they were here to win," Trevor Francis, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said after a tumultuous afternoon at Hillsborough. "We needed to be somewhere near our best." Easy enough to say in the aftermath of victory, maybe, but Arsenal did play more constructive, entertaining football in one game than they sometimes do in a month.

Forget John Harrison's 78th-minute sending-off. Neither, the fact that he is a teenager suddenly transported from the relative backwaters of Luton Town to the big league, nor the strain of having to try to justify a £25 million transfer fee, could excuse the savagery of his flying, two-footed lunge on Peter Reid, that threatened to dismember the Roman. By then, the die was cast.

The crucial moment had come 25 minutes earlier, when Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain, playing an FA Carling Premiership match for the first time since November, found the only card wishing him happy returns was coloured red and being brandished in his direction by Keith Burge, the referee.

It was an extraordinary incident. Three times in the first half, Adams had been fouled by reckless challenges from Mark Bright, the Wednesday forward with an unpleasant habit of getting his retaliation — and his elbow — in first.

The fourth time was the straw that broke the so-called donkey's back. Adams leapt to his feet and, facing Burge, swung his right elbow back to mimic Bright's assault: the

benefit of the referee. Imitation, in this case, proved the dearest form of battery. Unbeknown to Adams, Bright was right behind him and took the full force of Adams's elbow in his face.

Bright went down. Adams went off and Graham, with justification, went on the attack. "Tony was complaining about the [Bright's] use of the elbow and was only demonstrating it," Graham said. "It was not intentional at all, but it just highlights the problems we have had with officials in the last couple of weeks."

Bright has offered to support Adams and Graham hopes to use a video recording of the incident to clear his captain. He could also send the clip of Pearce's brutal challenge on Klavensky — almost in the Harrison class — and ask why that was worth only a caution.

Trailing 2-1 after a cracking first 25 minutes, Arsenal, even with ten men, took the game to Wednesday. Astonishingly, with nine, they stepped up the pressure and an equaliser had looked at least as likely as the

Full results and league tables Page 30

third goal for Wednesday, tapped in four minutes into stoppage time by Bright.

By then, Arsenal were probably resigned to their fate. Ahead through the unmarked Linighan's header and pegged back by Petrescu's reply, they had gone behind thanks to another deflection, this one delivering Waddle's scuffed shot into Inghesson's path. Wednesday had the more frequent chances thereafter, but Arsenal still harboured genuine hopes of a point until the contest became unequal.

Justed they might be at present, but Graham will not expect too many messages of sympathy. So many of his club's problems are self-inflicted that it will take more than one adventurous, unlucky afternoon to turn the tide of public opinion. Still, at least this was a start.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-1-1): K. Pearson — J. Harrison, D. Whelan (sub J. Sharnford, 60min), A. Pearce, J. Nield — D. Petrescu, G. Hyde, C. Bart-Williams (sub G. Whittington, 64), K. Inghesson — C. Waddle — M. Bright. **ARSENAL (4-4-2):** D. Seaman — L. Dixon, A. Linighan, A. Adams, R. Whitehead — R. Campbell, J. Selley (sub R. Parlor, 64), J. Jensen (sub M. Keown, 46), P. Merson — J. Harrison, C. Klavensky. Referee: N. Burge.

Redknapp moves boldly

Leicester City 1
West Ham United 2

By Alyson Rudd

STICKING to your guns may be admirable in politics, but in football it can backfire. John Gorman offers a case in point. As Swindon Town became firmly entrenched at the foot of the FA Carling Premiership last season, Gorman could not understand it: his team was playing well.

As a consequence, Gorman, while winning admirers for attractive football, did not win enough matches to prevent his club's slide back into the Endleigh first division. West Ham United are in a similar position. They have been playing attractive football, creating chances and winning praise, but losing enough fixtures to keep them bobbing in and out of the relegation zone. Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, did what had to be done. He dropped players who were playing well.

"I didn't want to sound like John Gorman at Swindon last season," he explained, and so, for the game at Fylbert Street, he left out Bishop. Holmes

and Boere, who, he said, had been "playing absolutely tremendous".

Is there a lesson here for Mark McGhee, the Leicester City manager, whose team is playing well — it would be difficult for him to do so, because it is not — and McGhee would dearly love to bring in different players. Indeed, he sounds as if he would like to bring in as many as eight or nine. Unfortunately, there are not eight or nine half-decent players prepared to sign for a club destined to drop. So McGhee is left with a squad lacking the talent needed to play his passing game. Apparently, they take him too literally.

McGhee envisaged Leicester neatly playing the ball out of defence — which they did beautifully in the sixth minute in a move that should have seen Philpott score — but too often they dawdled in dangerous positions.

Even the highly-rated Draper, whose value seems to increase with every pass, no matter how ordinary, was caught in possession on the edge of his own area, a mistake which let in Dicks, who teed up Cotte to give the

visitors the lead in the 29th minute. The Leicester defence then lost its brief spell of composure and Grayson fouled Cotte after a mistake by Smith. Dicks fired his penalty kick with sufficient power to deny Poole his deserved bit of glory. The Leicester goalkeeper was certainly their best player on the day.

Leicester reduced the deficit through Robins in the 45th minute, but, despite the introduction of Lawrence, signed by McGhee from Doncaster Rovers and one of the most entertaining players in the Premiership — witness his attempt to lob Miklosko from 45 yards with the goalkeeper on his line — Leicester were lost.

Given their precarious position, some Redknapp-style pragmatism might be in order, but, despite admitting that he needs better players, McGhee looks set to do a Gorman and stick to his guns.

LEICESTER CITY (4-4-2): K. Poole — S. Lawrence, C. Hill, N. Ashton, R. Smith (sub J. Grayson, 60min) — M. Draper, M. Galloway, S. Thompson, L. Philpott — I. Roberts, M. Robins. **WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2):** J. Madsen — T. Bremner, S. Poole, A. Martin, J. Dicks — D. Williams, J. Morris, M. Allen, N. Hughes — D. Hutchinson (sub J. Boere, 67), A. Cotte. Referee: J. Worrell.

Tedium demands more than excuses

Wimbledon 0
Leeds United 0

By Simon Wilde

THIS has been a dog of a season for football. Its very fabric seems to be perishing before our eyes. Relations between clubs and spectators, players and referees, have all come under strain, leaving those who remain passionate about the game hoping that one day we will be able to get back to the football.

At Selhurst Park on Saturday, we did just that. The referee remained unmolested. Despite the fact that this was Britain's first kick-boxing stadium, no player went first for a spectator. Wimbledon did not even have anyone booked. And it was awful.

It is amazing how, after matches as tedious as this, managers come up with all sorts of excuses. Joe Kinnear and Howard Wilkinson this time made the same one.

"Leeds are a big, powerful outfit," Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said. "Most of

my back four are downstairs with aspirators."

"Against Wimbledon, you need big people," Wilkinson, the Leeds United manager, said, defending his decision not to bring on Yeboah. "It was important to keep the climbers on the pitch." Neither explained what is wrong with playing the ball on the ground.

Until their opponents fired towards the end, Leeds, who took the first half to get over their previous grueling match, at Blackburn Rovers, had no answer to Wimbledon's harrising tactics. Their best chance was reserved for the final move of the match, Palmer's header inspiring a brilliant save from Segers.

If Kinnear and Wilkinson were honest, they would admit that their sides had been too afraid of losing — and of losing touch with the Premiership's leading pack.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): H. Rogers — G. Ekins, V. Jones, A. Thum, K. Cunningham — A. Reeves, R. Eadie, O. Loughran — W. Barrett — E. Eadie (sub J. Goodwin, 81min), M. Halford (sub G. Barrett, 81). **LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2):** J. Lukic — A. Donga, C. Palmer, J. Penberthy, G. Kelly — N. Worthington, G. McAllister, L. Riecke, D. White — G. Doane, P. Murrage. Referee: G. Ashby.

Ipswich bow to Salako

Ipswich Town 0
Crystal Palace 2

By Ivo Tennant

PRESCIENCE and perception are still essential to Gary Lineker. In his role as a television pundit, he was explaining at lunchtime on Saturday the merits of John Salako and what an exciting prospect he had seemed to be when they played together all too briefly for England. Come the afternoon, the worth of his opinions was apparent.

Salako made both of Crystal Palace's goals, ensuring that they began a short break to Cyprus on the right note. If Armstrong really would fetch anything up to £5 million on the transfer market, an absurd amount of money on this evidence, then goodness knows how Palace evaluate Salako. Rather more highly, no doubt.

If Palace's first goal owed much to Salako's indefatigability, their second, a penalty, came about through his sheer exuberance. War was the second Ipswich defender to prove unable to prevent him jinking into the penalty area, legally at any rate, Palace

were by then down to ten men through Newman, having been sent off for a second bookable offence, but they never looked like being overwhelmed.

There was a modicum of luck about the first goal, early in the second half. Forrest, outside his own penalty area, easily could have hoofed his clearance into the stand. Ipswich, though, are no Wimbledon: they like to play a little more constructively than that. The goalkeeper aimed for his own midfield, but failed to clear Salako. The rebound fell kindly for Dowie, who will never score a simpler goal.



Salako: exuberant

The penalty, awarded three minutes before the end, was neatly placed by Gordon. There was no disputing that War's challenge on Salako was thoroughly clumsy, but the recriminations continued in the Ipswich dressing-room long afterwards.

"Everybody wants to blame everybody else for our defeat, including the old and new bosses," George Burley, the Ipswich manager, said. He added, ominously: "There are a lot of players here with bad habits. Changes will have to be made."

Although Ipswich hit the crossbar on three occasions, they performed throughout without conviction. Indeed, you sense that there is an acceptance at Portman Road that relegation is inevitable. Better to make a fresh start in a lower division, when the opposition is more accommodating, the media less censorious and good habits can be properly ingrained.

IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): C. Forrest — F. Veltrop, J. Ward, T. Vaughan, N. Thompson — G. Johnson (sub A. Pizz, 67min), G. Williams (sub C. Thompson, 76), S. Sedley, A. Tanner — S. Baker, L. Chapman. **CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2):** N. Martin — D. Patterson, R. Shaw, C. Coleman, D. Gordon — G. Southgate, D. Fletcher, R. Newman, J. Salako — C. Armstrong (sub R. Bowry, 77), I. Dowie. Referee: S. Lodge.

the winner of every minor tennis tournament where would it be? The player who won the Wimbledon title in 1980. The player who won the Wimbledon title in 1980. The player who won the Wimbledon title in 1980.

Phil Neal: football manager who fantasised about running a marathon. John Goodbody reports

On the road to the marathon

Completing a marathon inspires almost everyone in sport. The event possesses a mythological aura that attracts even the most successful figures in other activities.

Phil Neal has achieved most honours in football. He is England's most capped full back with 50 appearances, eight Football League titles and four European Cup winners' medals which he won with Liverpool. However, he had always had the fantasy of running a marathon. "It was one of those dreams I had to go through," he said. "I used to stand in awe and wonder what pain the competitors were enduring."

Aided by Dave Long, who represented Great Britain in the 1988 and 1992 Olympic Games, Neal began preparing for the 1994 London Marathon. Despite suffering an injury a fortnight before the event, and finding the time for training while remaining manager of Coventry City, he hobbled round the course in 4hr 23min.

A former professional footballer, he was used to running on grass. "Your calves and feet suffer on the roads," he said. "The first thing I had to do was to get out on the roads."

The demands on Neal as a coach and manager were intense last year. He was an assistant to Graham Taylor with the England squad and, two weeks before the marathon, he returned to Coventry City to take a training session and did not warm up. "My leg went 'ping' and I thought I might have to miss the event," he said.



Liverpool's Phil Neal, 1982

"The physiotherapist, my training and my football experience got me round." It shows that even an experienced sportsman like Neal can make a mistake.

Neal benefited throughout his preparation from having Long as

his advisor. Long took up running in 1983 to get fit for football, and clocked 3hr 08min in his first race. He then improved his times in every one of his first ten marathons to become the first British competitor to gain selection for the 1988 Games.

"Ordinary people should just train to run the distance," he said. "You should not come away with some horror story on the day by trying to go too fast. You should have enjoyed it. By the end of February, it would have been very, very handy if you had completed 20 miles in training a couple of times."

In our schedule for February, we have included two three-hour (180 minute) steady runs which, if carried out at 9-minute miles, will produce 20 miles of continuous running. There will be one more 20-miler, at the start of March, and it would be valuable if one of these three efforts could be replaced by a competitive half-marathon. There are a cluster of scheduled half-marathons published in magazines such as *Runners World* about a month before the NutraSweet London Marathon on April 2. Long says that this will give you an indication of your time for the actual race so you can judge your pace.

Long said: "For the half-marathon, wear the same kit as for the full distance." Put Vaseline between your thighs and under your arms and get used to taking a little water at all the drinking stations.

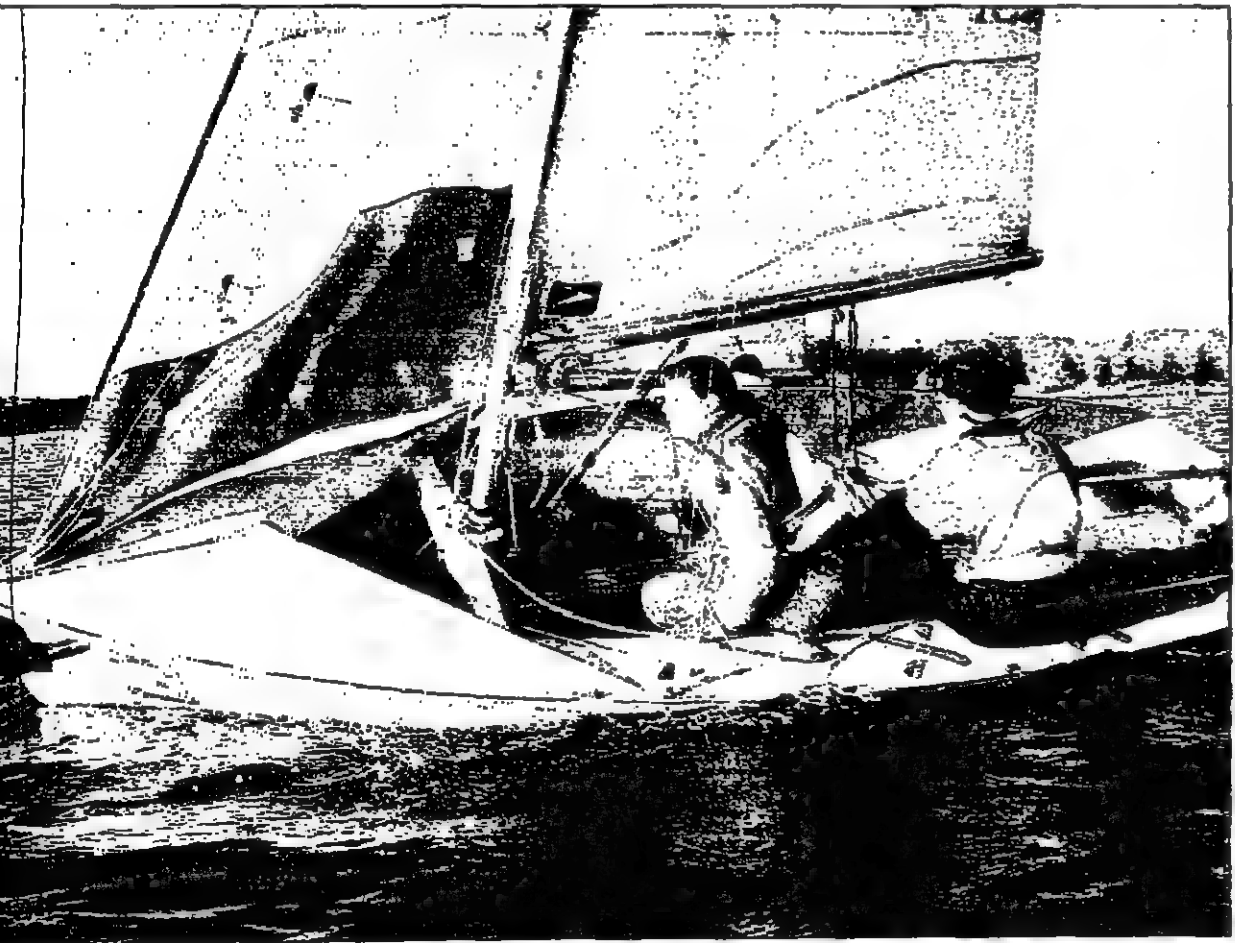
"Do not worry if you have to take a day or two off because you have a niggling injury. If you are injured for a while, try to use an exercise bike in a gymnasium, provided it does not aggravate the injury. Be careful if you have a cold, and certainly do not run if you have a temperature."

The schedule, left, will take you through to March. Try, as usual, to have your rest day on the day before your long run and your shortest run on the day after that long run. If you do not have time to train six days a week, omit the shortest of your weekly runs from your schedule. If you have entered a half-marathon race, do half the amount of training scheduled in the week preceding the event.



Long, the Olympic marathon runner, and Neal. "The first thing I had to do was get out on the roads," Neal said

FIFTH MONTH OF TRAINING	
Week one: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 75-minute run; one 50-minute fartlek session - including three times 10-minute fast spells; one 160-minute run; one rest day.	Week three: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 75-minute run; one 50-minute fartlek session as above; one 180-minute run (or half marathon race); one rest day.
Week two: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 80-minute run; one 50-fartlek session exactly the same as above; one 170-minute run; one rest day.	Week four: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 85-minute run; one 50-minute fartlek session exactly the same as above; one 180-minute run (or half marathon race); one rest day.



Helen Standing, Richard Priest and Tom Herbert. Sevenoaks's world champions, are a winning combination

Young sailors rule the waves

BRUCE Hebbert, the master of sailing at Sevenoaks School in Kent, barked orders at his world championship winning dinghy team like a sergeant major: "Cybe! Tack! Switch helms! Roll! Faster!"

In a breathtaking display of skill and co-ordination, three Sevenoaks dinghies rapidly circled our stationary motor-boat. Booms and sails swung at an alarming speed, flashing dazzlingly in the bright sun.

With another volley of commands, the dinghies suddenly formed a neat line and gybed and tacked away with the gracefulness of ballerinas. It was an impressive show.

Sevenoaks School is proud of its sailing team. In July, the six-strong squad beat the United States to win the "world" schools team championship for the third time (Great Britain, Ireland and the United States take part). In the same month, they beat Pangbourne College to become United Kingdom champions for the fourth time. Then, Sevenoaks came twelfth out of 32 teams at a world ranking event for adults.

Anyone who has tried their hand at sailing, knows that it is not the easiest of sports to

master. First lessons are very often the last lessons, accompanied with a painful bump on the back of the head from an unseen boom. How, then, have a bunch of GCSE and A level students become so good?

Hebbert believes that the secret of their success lies in hard work on the technical aspects of the sport at weekly sessions in front of the chalk board. In team sailing, in which two squads of three dinghies are normally pitted against each other, it is important to have a strong grip of the various devices ways one can carve up the opposition. Most victories come from using cunning to block out the opponent rather than straight out speed - Sevenoaks are Kaspars in this field.

"It is a highly intellectual sport," Hebbert said. "Technical understanding of the mechanics of a dinghy is essential. Then, there are complicated racing rules to learn. Finally, a good racer must be aware of the best tactics. I have found that most students who are interested tend to be mathematicians and physicists - the sport is suited to scientific minds."

Sevenoaks, a co-educational independent school with 940 pupils, has a strong sailing tradition, stretching back to the 1950s. In 1968, it was instrumental in setting up the British Schools Dinghy Racing Association (BSDRA), which organises the annual team championships in which 65, mainly independent, schools took part last year. The BSDRA operates alongside the National Schools Sailing Association, a parallel organisation that is open to all schools and youth clubs.

Former students have gone on to compete nationally. Ian Walker, who left after A levels in 1989, captained the Cambridge University team and is now a leading Olympic hope.

Sevenoaks has 15 dinghies, each worth £5,000 new. In competitions, the students race in 420s, a class of dinghy so-called because the boats are 4.20 metres long.

Girls make up about a third of the squad and compete, Hebbert said, on equal terms with the boys. Helen Standing, 16, who was a member of the championship winning team last year, said: "I like the challenge of controlling the dinghy when it is going really fast. The 'worse' the conditions, the better. I even quite like capsizing, just for the fun of it."

New talent keeps coming through. Richard Priest, 17, the team captain, won the individual school sailing championships held at Lichenor in West Sussex, in July, following in the footsteps of Walker, who won it in 1989.

Asked what it feels like to be world champions, the team was modest. Priest said: "It was a fantastic feeling when we won, but I don't know if we've really come to terms with being world champions yet." But he added: "We're definitely looking forward to doing it all again next season. We'll be hard to beat."



St George's beat Watford to maintain unbeaten record

By JOHN GOODBODY

INFORMED and enthusiastic coaching is valuable at any level of school sport. However, it is particularly valuable at a very young age.

This was again exemplified at St George's College, Weybridge, Surrey, on Saturday, when the under-16 hockey team continued its unbeaten run which stretches back six years. These boys have gone 73 games without defeat - 71 wins and two draws.

They have already won the national indoor title this winter and hope to take the outdoor title in May. Their 2-0 victory over Watford GS was secured without Andrew Crow and Danny Hayden, their two outstanding players, who were attending an England schoolboys' training weekend.

"There is a colossal expectation about the boys playing hockey; they do not anticipate defeat," Steve Hardy, the head of sport at St George's, said.

Many of the under-16 team began playing, some as young as seven, at Woburn Hill, the prep school attached to St George's, under the talented instruction of Tony Smith.

Hardy said: "Our hockey is based on possession, having the personal confidence to keep the ball and be confident on the ball. The boys are encouraged to develop a high level of individual skills."

"At this school, the pupils will play around with hockey balls in the playground as kids in other schools will kick a football. Hockey started at St George's 92 years ago, and it is believed that the annual fixture against Kingston GS, which has dominated the national under-18 age-group in recent years, is the oldest schoolboy fixture in the sport."

Like Kingston, St George's have their own all-weather surface. Hardy said: "The school would struggle in hockey without one, or at least

Discovering right track to away-day bliss

For the jobbing journalist, rugby international was always good for employment: the extra space which newspapers accorded the five nations' tournament did it. One Saturday, they published concise match reports in respect of Bath, Cardiff, London Irish and Leicester: the next, say with Wales at Twickenham, they would print a view of the action by the chief rugby correspondent and another by an elder statesman, a think-piece by a former international, a few paragraphs of "players' quotes", a profile of one of the participants and a colour piece by a columnist - me. With the exception of that last offering, one had to be rather knowledgeable about what went on ... unlike football.

Anybody could do football: who scored and when. Who was sent off and why. Where the result leaves the team and what will happen as a consequence. Which manager thought the referee needed glasses. Who was over the

moon, who off to the vet with psittacosis. Add a paragraph about the weather, another concerning the behaviour and density of the crowd and you were there. Full point and end it. Go and have a drink in the directors' guests bar and look up the price of a first-class ticket to where you went, in order to message expenses accordingly.

Rugby writers had to be knowledgeable because rugby readers demanded it. The purple passages I wrote steadily dealt with ephemera rather than substance: like being the over-the-hill correspondent at cricket.

I enjoyed my time fulfilling these duties all of which, I recall, involved travel and drink. Cardiff - where before the Arms Park there were designated pubs in which one had "the usual" which, as often as not, was a dark beer with a liver.

Landdowne Road, whether one progressed slowly, starting with coffee and brandy at the Maypole Dairy, followed by Guinness in the bar at

CLEMENT FREUD



Afterthoughts

whichever way the game went, took place after, rather than before, the final whistle.

In the Fifties, I did my first piece from Paris: there was a special transport deal affordable to those on an average wage - which was well

under £20 a week. The boat train at Victoria station was packed: some 300 of us ... and it was noticeable that more than 50 per cent were women, which came as a surprise. At home international, 95 per cent of the spectators were men.

We arrived at the Gard du Nord where coaches to the ground awaited us in the forecourt, but there was little demand. That in which I travelled contained five people, one of them *The Times* correspondent, U.A. Tiley (I stood for Uel; Tiley's father had been christened Samuel, and told his eldest son that as nobody had ever used the second half of his christian name, he would give it to him).

The game was well documented by my peers and I decided to devote my piece to women who watch rugby. In the train back, I made my way through the carriages to chat with those in transit to buffet car or lavatory.

Did you think our threequarters performed brilliantly? I asked one. She looked bemused. I tried it in French. She assured me she was English.

OK, I said, what did you think of the game? What game? You are on the rugby international excursion - that game.

She had gone to shop at Les Galeries Lafayette, a dainty luncheon in the Place Pigalle then the afternoon at Tuileries. I spoke to a dozen women. The flea market and Les Halles had been the favourite destinations, and yes, they always waited for the "special train deals" before embarking on these pleasurable outings.

Last week, I mentioned a Billy Walker contest and named his opponent as Jack Gardner, market gardener of Market Harborough. In the light of the title of this column, Walker's opponent on that far-off evening was Jack Bodell, swineherd, of Swadlincote. The blood on my programme which obliterated the boxer's names was definitely Walker's.

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ATHLETICS

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 100m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 11.55. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11.65. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 11.70. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 11.75. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11.80. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 11.85. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 11.90. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11.95. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 12.00. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 12.05.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 200m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 23.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 23.60. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 23.70. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 23.80. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 23.90. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 24.00. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 24.10. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 24.20. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 24.30. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 24.40.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 400m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 51.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 51.60. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 51.70. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 51.80. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 51.90. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 52.00. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 52.10. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 52.20. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 52.30. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 52.40.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 800m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 2:05.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2:06.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 2:06.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 2:06.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2:06.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 2:06.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 2:06.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2:07.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 2:07.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2:07.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 1600m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 5:15.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5:16.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 5:16.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 5:16.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5:16.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 5:16.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 5:16.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5:17.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 5:17.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5:17.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 3200m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 10:35.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 10:36.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 10:36.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 10:36.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 10:36.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 10:36.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 10:36.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 10:37.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 10:37.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 10:37.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 6400m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 21:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 21:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 21:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 21:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 21:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 21:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 21:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 21:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 21:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 21:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 12800m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 43:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 43:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 43:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 43:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 43:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 43:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 43:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 43:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 43:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 43:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 25600m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 87:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 87:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 87:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 87:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 87:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 87:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 87:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 87:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 87:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 87:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 50000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 175:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 175:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 175:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 175:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 175:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 175:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 175:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 175:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 175:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 175:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 100000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 351:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 351:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 351:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 351:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 351:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 351:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 351:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 351:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 351:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 351:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 200000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 703:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 703:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 703:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 703:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 703:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 703:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 703:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 703:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 703:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 703:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 400000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 1407:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 1407:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 1407:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 1407:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 1407:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 1407:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 1407:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 1407:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 1407:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 1407:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 800000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 2815:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2815:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 2815:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 2815:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2815:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 2815:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 2815:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2815:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 2815:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 2815:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 1600000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 5631:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5631:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 5631:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 5631:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5631:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 5631:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 5631:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5631:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 5631:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 5631:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 3200000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 11263:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11263:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 11263:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 11263:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11263:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 11263:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 11263:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11263:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 11263:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 11263:57.20.

BIRMINGHAM: AAA indoor championships. Men: 6400000m. 1. M. Russell (Birmingham) 22527:55.50. 2. D. Brannan (Harrow) 22527:56.00. 3. J. Russell (Birmingham) 22527:56.10. 4. S. Worsley (Harrow) 22527:56.20. 5. D. Brannan (Harrow) 22527:56.30. 6. A. Condon (Harrow) 22527:56.40. 7. M. Russell (Birmingham) 22527:56.50. 8. D. Brannan (Harrow) 22527:57.00. 9. S. Worsley (Harrow) 22527:57.10. 10. D. Brannan (Harrow) 22527:57.20.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 82 Indiana 78, Detroit 84 Atlanta 76, Boston 80 New Jersey 78, Dallas 100 Houston 95, Philadelphia 100 Milwaukee 88, San Antonio 97 Sacramento 94, LA Lakers 121 LA Clippers 119.

BUSINESS LEAGUE: Derby 82 (Stern) 23, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19, Gillingham 19.

LE BRANT-BORNE: European championships. Men: 100m. 1. P. Paves (P. Paves) 22m 53.45sec. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 21m 51.50. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 49.50. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 47.50. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 45.50. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 43.50. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 41.50. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 39.50. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 37.50. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 35.50.

NOTTINGHAM: National indoor 25 leagues championships. Quarter-finals: 1. Newmarket (Nottingham) 21 D. Wirt (Preston) 10. 2. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 3. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 4. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 5. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 6. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 7. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 8. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 9. S. Wirt (Preston) 10. 10. S. Wirt (Preston) 10.

SWANSEA: Welsh indoor association. Test match: Wales vs Channel Islands 22-0. Wales: 1. S. Paves (P. Paves) 22m 53.45sec. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 21m 51.50. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 49.50. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 47.50. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 45.50. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 43.50. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 41.50. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 39.50. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 37.50. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 35.50.

STUTTGART: Indoor athletics meeting. Men: 100m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 22m 53.45sec. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 21m 51.50. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 49.50. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 47.50. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 45.50. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 43.50. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 41.50. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 39.50. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 37.50. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 35.50.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 100m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 22m 53.45sec. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 21m 51.50. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 49.50. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 47.50. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 45.50. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 43.50. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 41.50. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 39.50. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 37.50. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 21m 35.50.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 200m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 45:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 45:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 46:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 46:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 46:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 46:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 46:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 46:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 46:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 46:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 400m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 1:31:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 1:31:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 1:32:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 800m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 3:03:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 3:03:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 3:04:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 1600m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 6:07:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 6:07:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 6:08:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 3200m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 12:15:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 12:15:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 12:16:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 6400m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 24:31:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 24:31:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 24:32:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 12800m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 48:63:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 48:63:55. 3. J. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:00. 4. S. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:05. 5. M. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:10. 6. K. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:15. 7. A. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:20. 8. B. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:25. 9. C. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:30. 10. D. Paves (P. Paves) 48:64:35.

TOURNOIS: IAAF world cross-country championships. Men: 25600m. 1. J. Paves (P. Paves) 97:27:50. 2. G. Margul (P. Paves) 97:27:55

Queen's Bench Division

Costs sent too late

Regina v North Kent Magistrates, Ex parte McGoldrick & Co (a Firm)

Before Mr Justice Schiemann
[Judgment January 24]
A magistrates' court clerk was wrong to decide that under regulation 12(1) of the Costs in Criminal Cases (General) Regulations (SI 1986 No 1339) he could not tax costs where the claim had been submitted outside the three-month time limit unless he first found that the delay entailed exceptional circumstances.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division in allowing the application of McGoldrick & Co for certiorari to quash the decision of the clerk to the justices of North Kent Magistrates to refuse to tax their bill of costs ordered by Dartford Magistrates Court in respect of defence proceedings at Dartford Magistrates Court.

Regulation 12 of the 1986 Regulations provides:
"(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the time limit within which there must be made or instituted - (a) a claim for costs by an applicant under regulation 6... may, for good reason, be extended."
"(2) Where an applicant without good reason has failed to, if an extension were not granted, would fail to comply with a time limit, the appropriate authority... may, in exceptional circumstances, extend the time limit."

Mr Philip Noble for the applicant, the respondent did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that on the face of it paragraph 12(1) of the 1986 Order applied both to applications within and without the time limit of three months prescribed by regulation 6(1) of the Order.

In the case of an application made after the expiry of the three-month limit nothing in regulation 12(1) prevented the time limit being extended where there was merely good reason for delay.

It seemed clear that the clerk construed regulation 12(1) in such a way that in cases where the application to extend time was made after the expiry of the three-month limit it prevented him from considering whether or not there was a good reason for the failure to apply within three months. That was a misconstruction.

He also construed regulation 12(2) as meaning that the exceptional circumstances there mentioned must relate to the reasons for failure to apply within three months and that was a misconstruction.

The decision was quashed and the matter remitted to the clerk. Solicitors: McGoldrick & Co.

Jones v Secretary of State for Wales and Another

Before Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Saville

[Judgment February 1]

On an application that an inspector appointed to conduct an inquiry into a planning application was possibly guilty of bias, a judge erred in concluding that he was able to say, simply by reading the affidavits, that all the evidence had been given in good faith and that the differences were no more than differences of recollection.

Unlikely as it might seem, it was undoubtedly possible that the appellants had concocted their story in order to establish grounds for an appeal. It was equally possible that the inspector might not have been telling the truth. If there was evidence before a court which, unless satisfactorily explained, could lead to an inference of improper behaviour on the part of an inspector, then the court should allow cross-examination of the affidavits.

The Court of Appeal so held by a majority. Lord Justice Saville dissenting, on an appeal by Mr Anthony Lyndon Jones and his father, Mr William Edward Jones, against a decision of Mr David Widdicombe, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, on June 7, 1994, refusing them leave to file further evidence and leave to cross-examine the inspector, Mr Colin Edward Davis, who, following an inquiry, had dismissed their appeal against a decision of Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council, refusing them permission to change the use of a barn on their land at Llandow, South Glamorgan.

MR JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that the appellants' grounds for seeking to quash the decision of the inspector were (i) that there was a real possibility of bias on the part of the inspector, having regard to his behaviour both before and after the close of the inquiry; (ii) the inspector took into consideration new evidence not raised at the inquiry, without affording the applicants an opportunity to comment on it; (iii) in breach of the rules of natural justice, the inspector had regard to matters or evidence after the close of the inquiry without giving the applicants an opportunity of commenting thereon.

In an affidavit Mr Anthony Lyndon Jones said that, after the close of the inquiry, he had occasion to go back in the inquiry room. On partly opening the door he noticed that the inspector and Mr Hurley (the representative of the council at the inquiry) were standing very closely together, with their backs towards him. He could clearly see that Mr Hurley was holding a document and pointing to a certain part of it. The inspector was looking at the document and appeared to be paying attention to what Mr Hurley was

Inspector to be cross-examined

pointing at

In his affidavit Mr William Edward Jones said that during the course of the inquiry a question arose about a document and the inspector started looking for it on his desk. He then said: "Oh, it's all right, I've found it. It was given to me by Mr Morgan (the planning officer who gave evidence for the council) in his office earlier this morning."

The inspector, in his affidavit, denied the allegations of the father and son, saying that at no time did he indicate he had been given any document by Mr Morgan in his office earlier that morning, nor had he met him before he opened the inquiry. With regard to the son's allegation he said "Mr Hurley did not... at any time after the inquiry had been closed attempt to show me or draw my attention to or discuss in any way any documents as alleged."

After reviewing the judgment his Lordship said that he was unable to understand on what basis the judge was able to say, simply by reading the affidavits, that all the evidence had been given in good faith, and that the differences had been no more than differences of recollection. It had been accepted that if the appellants could establish any of the matters set out in their grounds, that could be a sufficient reason for quashing the decision.

Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Saville dissented.

Solicitors: Lawrence Graham for Pimmins, Reading; Treasury Solicitor and Mr Allen J. Oliver, Barry.

His counsel to go to the assistant recorder in chambers to ask for an indication of the maximum sentence he might expect if he changed his plea to guilty.

The assistant recorder indicated that the sentence would be between 14 months and three years. Counsel told the appellant, who changed his plea.

The matter was adjourned for a pre-trial report, and the appellant

was later sentenced to 30 months.

He complained in the court that he had been given an expectation on August 3 from which the judge had departed when he passed sentence.

There was no merit in that complaint, but it was to be deplored that counsel had allowed himself to be put in the position of asking the assistant recorder for an indication and to be deplored even more that the assistant re-

Plea bargaining to be deplored

cord had given such an indication.

The sentence would, however, be reduced on the ground that despite the fact that the appellant had a very bad record the sentence should, under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, be commensurate with the offence, which in this case had been a burglary of an unoccupied dwelling house during daylight hours.

Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Saville dissented.

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EDUCATION

We'll run your schools for you — and make a profit

All 32 schools in Hartford, Connecticut, are run and repaired by a private company, writes Tony Dawe

A unique American experiment in which 32 schools and their 25,000 pupils have been handed over, lock, stock and teachers, to a private consortium, is reaping dividends in its first full term of operation.

Three computer laboratories have been set up where none existed before in schools in Hartford, Connecticut. Energy-saving equipment has been installed in nine schools, releasing funds for new teaching aids, and crumbling buildings have been repaired.

Increasing numbers of parents are coming to appreciate the efforts of Education Alternatives, the profit-making consortium now in control, but teachers — who are paid by the company but report to school heads and an education board — remain sceptical.

The experiment is being watched with interest in Britain. Sir Robert Balchin, chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools Foundation, says the American scheme would be politically impossible to emulate in secondary schools, but could help to expand nursery education, to which the Government is pledged.

A familiar catalogue of ills led Hartford's board of education to embrace privatisation last year. Exam results were deteriorating, absenteeism was on the increase, classroom violence and teenage pregnancy were becoming an ever-greater problem, and managers seemed incapable of maintaining reasonable standards in the face of budget cuts.

Education Alternatives sold itself as the one company capable of remedying the problems. Born out of research into "the perfect school" by the Control Data Corporation, the company opened a couple of private schools in 1987 and 1988, before taking over a problem school in Miami and then moving into 12 schools with 7,600 pupils in Baltimore, Maryland.

In its campaign to win control of an entire city's schools for the first time, the company promised Hartford that "by bringing management and operational expertise to schools [it would] enable teachers to focus their energies where it counts — in the classrooms". In other words, it would run the schools more efficiently and share the savings with them.

In the consortium, KPMG Peat



Check this out: one of the schools in Baltimore, Maryland, which Education Alternatives took over

Marwick provides business and accounting practices to monitor, control and abstract savings; Johnson Controls Facility Management Services repairs and maintains schools, and Computer Curriculum Corporation offers computers and learning materials to students. Education Alternatives also provides training and support for teachers and offers its own teaching method, although this has not been taken up in Hartford.

The fiercest opposition to Education Alternatives' lobbying came from teaching unions, which investigated the company and its executives and circulated the results to local papers. When the education board finally signed a five-year contract for the company to oversee the \$200m a year (£130m) budget, Birdie Cody, a long-serving teacher, described it as "the worst decision that the board could have made; many teachers have no faith in Education Alternatives".

Even now the unions are remaining stubborn in negotiations with the company over pay and conditions. Parents and board members, however, are elated. Kathy Evans, a board member, says: "The company is providing us with technology we didn't have, better teacher training and improved facilities. It is clearly a big win for Hartford's children." Hyacinth Yenne sums up many parents' feeling when she says: "I feel

great about it; we are finally going some place."

Snow Mitchell, a Johnson Controls manager engaged on the project, says: "It's early days yet but we have started on much-needed repairs, are establishing a new programme for maintenance and security work, reorganising the buildings and grounds and identifying what better equipment is needed. At the same time, we have already identified savings which can be made."

Much of this work has been done by staff from the firms belonging to the consortium, but Education Alternatives has sub-contracted some of the services, including the busing of children to and from school.

The company is permitted by its contract to earn profits only from the savings it has generated. It has also promised to invest £1 million in the repair, security and upgrading of school buildings, and to provide a further £9 million for classroom and office technology in the first year.

The contract also specifies that:

- Facilities will be clean, safe and efficiently managed.
- Training for teachers and non-instructional staff, in-classroom resources, parental and community involvement will all increase.
- All current union contracts will be honoured, and the company will work co-operatively in collective bargaining.
- Teams of school governors will be established at every school to determine how to reach the curriculum standards set by the board.

These details should fascinate Britain's school managers, engaged in drawing up contracts with private firms to provide specific services, but would they ever consider handing over the running of the entire school?

Sir Cyril Taylor, chairman of the City Technology Colleges Trust, which seeks the support of private industry in the funding and governing of its colleges, believes that allowing private companies to run them for profit would be unacceptable. "The injection of free enterprise in setting targets for improving exam results and attendance, as well as providing catering, cleaning and maintenance services, is very valuable," he says. "But the idea of handing over schools to a profit-making company is too radical."

Most grant-maintained schools, like city colleges and an increasing number of state schools, have turned to the private sector for a wide range of services, including supervision of the payroll and provision of in-service training for teachers.

Sir Robert Balchin sees little scope for further privatisation. "It has been difficult enough to get local education authorities to hand over schools to a small collection of parents," he says. "It would need a Conservative government with a majority of 150 to sanction the handing over of whole schools to private companies."

VIEWPOINT

S levels must live again

The uproar that greeted the likely abolition of the Oxford entrance examination has tended to nail the right flag on the wrong mast. Opponents of abolition argue that it is a decision based on political correctness, and that the examination gave the best candidates a chance to show their worth at a time when standards at A level were seen to be in decline.

There is much to be said for this argument and for opposition to any system based on the notoriously fallible interview method. There is also a sneaking fear that Oxford and Cambridge desire to base their entry not simply on the best of their applicants, but on positive discrimination and fairly feeble social engineering.

Yet the fact remains that, sooner or later, the Oxford entrance examination is doomed because the system around it has changed. There is only one university which

League of universities, perhaps numbering 14 or 15. These universities are now demanding grades perilously close to or the same as Oxford and Cambridge. Manchester Grammar can look back over nearly 20 years of examining and prove that the standard of entry has not changed. Yet at the same time the average number of "A" grades at A level has increased from about 30 per cent to about 60 per cent.

A level no longer distinguishes the "top" candidate as it used to. An interview is no answer because it often measures social skills, rather than academic ones. If we accept that certain universities will set higher standards than others, then we have to accept also that they should have a measurement technique suitable to their needs.

The British are not always very good at seeing what is staring them in the face. We

We are not good at seeing what is obvious

actually have an examination with us now that was designed to test for higher ability than could be measured at A level, and designed to be taken with minimal extra work or coaching. This examination is the S level.

S level was killed, ironically enough, by Cambridge University, when it ditched its fourth and seventh term examinations in favour of STEP papers to be set at the same time as A levels. The system was chaos from the start, with some colleges asking for STEP in some subjects, others for S levels and some for nothing.

More than half of Manchester Grammar's candidates for Oxford are the first member of their family to attend that university, and for those not brought up to the mystique of Oxford, the extra effort (and the risk) of jumping it. Oxford did not help its case by stating that the examination required minimal preparation, when it was abundantly clear that this was total nonsense. No wonder it put off bright pupils in maintained schools which did not have the resources to teach for the examination.

Yet the principle embodied in the examination is probably correct. Recent years have seen the growth of an Ivy

killed, ironically enough, by Cambridge University, when it ditched its fourth and seventh term examinations in favour of STEP papers to be set at the same time as A levels. The system was chaos from the start, with some colleges asking for STEP in some subjects, others for S levels and some for nothing. Fewer and fewer provincial universities seemed to ask for S level, and the result was that the examination was starved almost out of existence.

It is high time we gave the kiss of life to S level, and above all gave the universities' responsibility for setting the examination to test higher thinking skill, with minimal preparation. The nightmare is that we decide instead to develop a starred "A" grade, adding another tier to the existing A level. S level would find support, would do a certain job for the right pupils at the right time, and would answer a pressing need.

JENNIFER AND MARTIN STEPHEN

● The authors are Headmistress of Garsington School, Leeds, and High Master of Manchester Grammar School.

Political parties are scrambling to set their educational policies

The next election may be two years away, but it is already casting its shadow over education. Not only has it begun to influence government policy, but the education service itself has started to prepare for the possibility of yet more upheaval.

From pre-school organisations to higher education, there is a determination not to be left behind as the parties set the agenda for the next campaign. But the process is most evident in the independent sector, where the threat to the Assisted Places Scheme and schools' charitable status is causing particular concern.

More than 70 head teachers and senior staff from independent schools were sufficiently concerned to attend a day-long seminar at St Dunstan's College, Catford, in southeast London last week. They discovered, predictably enough, that the politicians were a long way off committing themselves on most of the sensitive issues.

Indeed, Sir Rhodes Boyson, the former Conservative Education Minister, insisted that his party never had an education policy until an election was imminent. Although he had a raft of radical ideas, from summertime remedial classes for the under-fives to a scholarship system for higher education, he predicted that the official manifesto would merely react to events.

In a characteristically mischievous aside, he said: "Most of my colleagues are quite well educated, but most of them are not particularly interested in education."

Bryan Davies, Labour's higher education spokesman, was never likely to make such an admission, but nor could he throw much light on the areas that have dogged his party in the last few weeks. There was no hint of the route to the promised consensus on opting

Shadow-boxing in the red and blue corners



Giving little away: Rhodes Boyson, left, and Bryan Davies

out, no clear view on the fate of the grammar schools and no more information on the funding of students and higher education institutions.

Mr Davies was uncompromising on Labour's determination to phase out assisted places, even though he could put no figure on the expected savings. But he avoided all mention of the issue of charitable status, which was the source of such confusion for his party over the new year.

Independent school issues are at least relatively straightforward in party terms: the Conservatives are unlikely to seek any significant change, while the Opposition education team is barely disguising its hostility to the sector. As Mr Davies said: "Labour does not want an escape passage for the few."

The £90-million Assisted Places Scheme will be doomed

if there is a change of government, although Mr Davies gave an assurance that existing award-holders would continue to be supported. Labour's bark may be worse than its bite on charitable status, however. The party is still sensitive to charges of "the politics of envy", and many of its potential supporters in target constituencies are either using or considering independent schools.

Other areas, like nursery education and higher education are more confused. Neither of the main parties has declared its hand beyond issuing the most general statements of principle.

Last week, for example, Labour launched an inquiry into pre-school education, and the next day Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, admitted that she hopes the election is a long way off because she is not near to

producing the extra places promised in the current Parliament.

Mrs Shephard's remarks came at the launch of the Pre-School Learning Alliance, which was a prime example of creative pre-election thinking. The 20,000 playgroups, saddled with an image that could deprive them of a leading role in Labour or Conservative expansion plans, announced that they were renaming themselves pre-schools.

All three main parties were represented at the launch, confirming the political importance of provision for the under-fives. But the politicians are less anxious to be drawn into debate on the potentially equally sensitive area of higher education. Ministers are happy to use their review of higher education to deflect calls for action, while Labour also has the obligatory inquiry in progress.

Whichever party is in power will face pressure for renewed expansion of the university system and reform of the student grants and loans. The obvious course of action, to introduce charges of some sort for tuition, is fraught with political dangers.

Civil servants in the Education Department are watching the manoeuvring with more interest than most. Rob Smith, who heads the branch responsible for independent schools, was giving little away at the St Dunstan's conference, but he identified both parties' tough line on standards as the key pointer to developments after the election.

Education may never be the issue that puts a government into office. But the signs are that, for all the calls for stability and consensus, the subject will loom larger than ever in the next campaign, whenever that may be.

JOHN O'LEARY

Tuck box, gym kit, ferret

As schools relax the rules on pets to lure pupils, Jessica Gorst-Williams offers a wildlife guide to the best



A Wellington College student with his red-kneed tarantula

Whether it is a ferret, praying mantis, polo pony, rat, snake or ordinary rabbit, if it has a desirable pupil in tow it will find a welcome at one of the top independent boarding schools. With pupils at a premium, pet accommodation is being quietly spruced up and rules relaxed.

Schools tend to be cautious about where they stand on the subject of allowing pupils to keep pets, so here are a few pointers. Polo ponies should think about Wellington College in Berkshire, with its Army tradition. Refurbishment of its Copenhagen stables (named after the first Duke's horse) was completed last June. At the moment, the college says, they accommodate four polo ponies and two eventers. "Other pets are allowed under exceptional circumstances. The winner of last year's National Junior Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award has snakes and a praying mantis in his room. We also have a pupil who keeps fish."

Another school offering five-star stabling is Bedgebury in Goudhurst, Kent. About 25 pupils' horses are kept at its riding centre, with an outlay for parents per horse of between £35 and £80 a week. "Normal pets such as rabbits, guinea pigs, rats and chinchillas live in hutches made by the CDT department in the pet area, and have the run of the place in the summer," the registrar says. "Because they are outside, hamsters just come in the summer. There is a special holiday rabbit-sitting service run very cheaply by a member of staff."

Mayfield College in East Sussex, which at present has a no-animals policy, is among schools considering joining the horsey bandwagon. "We are looking into the possibility

of putting up stabling in order to have a limited number pupils' horses," the school says.

Ferrets could consider Milton Abbey, Dorset, which has a Ferret Society and a purpose-built hut for them to live in. At Eton ferrets are kept in the beagle kennel. Hay and dry cat food is provided by the owners, and they are exercised on the playing fields wearing cat harnesses. The latest count of ferrets at Eton was 15.

Goats could try the King's School, Canterbury where the captain of school is allowed to keep a goat on the green court,

although no one has taken this up in the past ten years, according to Janet Pickering, the senior mistress.

As for other pupils, Mrs Pickering says: "They can have what they like as long as the animals are small and reasonably easy to look after." Some are kept in the boarding houses. Otherwise they join the school terrapins, chinchillas and chipmunks in the biology lab, where they reside in spacious cages. None is used for dissection practice.

For pythons the school to approach is Harrow. Only creatures that have a "thera-

peutic" purpose and have been carefully vetted by the housemaster are allowed in the boarding houses. Recently a python was deemed to be in this category. Otherwise poultry and other livestock can be lodged on the school farm.

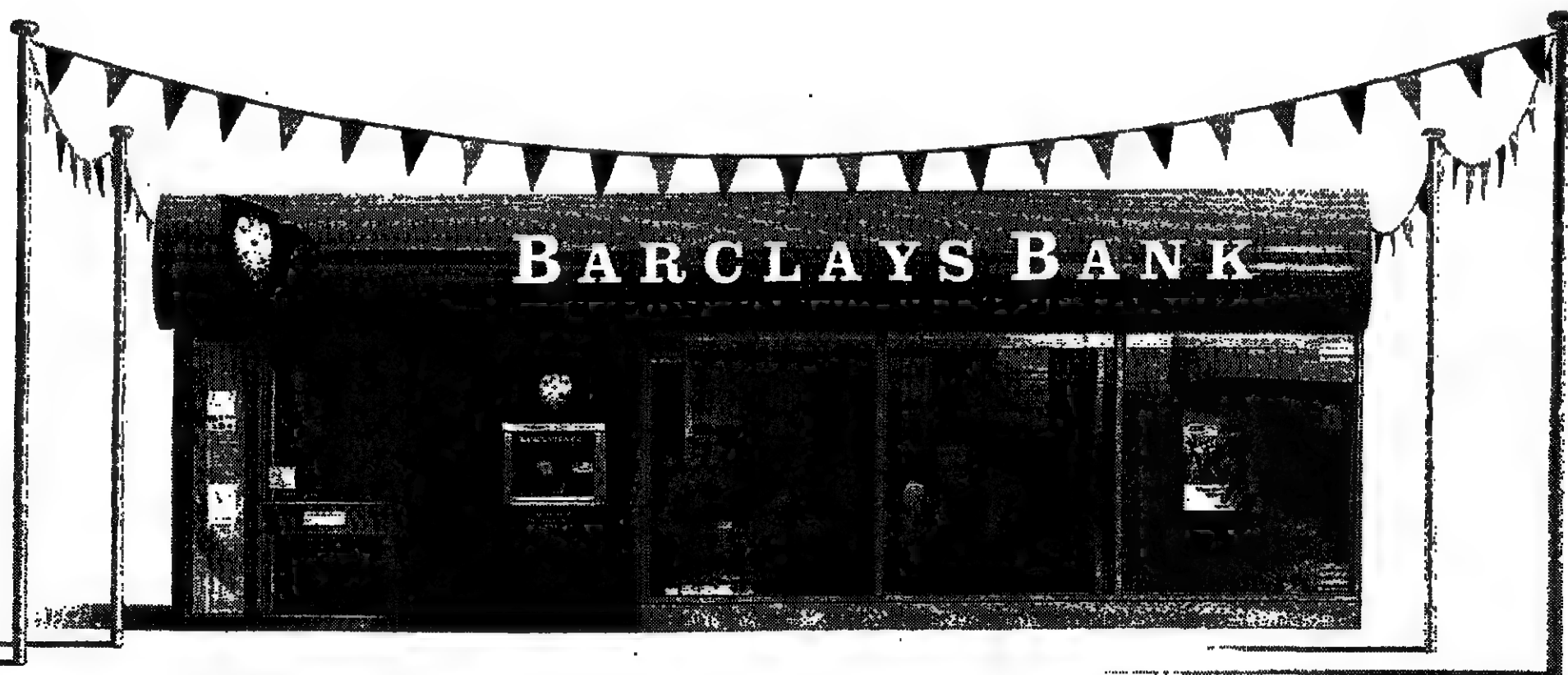
Rabbits and guinea pigs are spoils for choice. Among the many schools that will take them is Sherborne School for Girls, which has a special pet shed, and North Foreland Lodge, near Basingstoke, where they inhabit a brick building with a radiator in winter, and in summer they are in big cages and runs constructed by the gardener. Straw and sawdust is charged at £2 per term, with food costing extra. Goldfish are allowed, but not hamsters because, says Julia Bose, the member of staff in charge of animals, "the girls didn't look after them properly when they had them. There was sawdust and straw everywhere and they were not always shut in."

Miss Bose believes pets can be good for pupils. "Because they can talk to them without things said back."

Many schools are more hazy about their policy on pets, but probably would not let a good pupil slip through their net by being too dogmatic. Winchester's headmaster, James Sabben-Clare, says: "It is a question of boys negotiating with their housemaster." Edward Gould of Marlborough College says: "I would consider health and safety matters before coming to any decision after discussion with the parents in assessing whether to allow an animal or reptile or not."

No-go schools for pupils' pets include Seaford College and Millfield, and girls-only Wycombe Abbey, Benenden and Roedean.

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VEHICLE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

JP 21/10/1550

Martin Waller on a new breed of lager tout

Something's brewing in Cuba's world of exports

The Cuba of the 1950s, in the dying days of the hedonistic Batista dictatorship, attracted some pretty rum investors. As Fidel Castro, Batista's rather more straitlaced successor, faces the near inevitable rundown of Communist rule, mysterious money is once again doing the rounds.

Cigars remain the island's best-known consumer export, but an outfit christened Corporation Cerveza Clara (CCC) has hatched a plan to market the output from its 118-year-old brewing industry to the Western world.

CCC has reached a deal with state-owned Havana Rum and Liquors to promote its "light, refreshing lagers which suit the country's Caribbean climate", initially in Britain, Spain and Canada.

This would follow on from the runaway success of the presumably similar Mexican beers such as Sol and Corona in the UK and Hispanic markets.

But, on further examination, CCC's brew turns a little cloudy. News of the partnership coincides with last week's appearance of José Luis Rodríguez, Cuba's Minister of Finance, who visited SG Warburg to meet European investors.

Paisner & Co, the venture's legal adviser, was distinctly cagey as to whether Warburg was actually involved in the deal. Adam Rose, a solicitor at Paisner, said cryptically: "I don't want to lead you into



Fidel Castro, President of Cuba, where traders hope to copy Mexico's beer exporting success

thinking they are, or they aren't."

Warburg proved more forthcoming. The meeting took place at the firm's City conference centre but "it's nothing to do with us", said a spokesman.

"We're not involved — they have used our venue as a place to announce their plans to the world."

CCC has London offices but is registered in Panama. "They

have UK people involved, but they don't want their identities let out at this stage," said Mr Rose. Are they looking for funds to invest? "I'm not sure they really are at this stage."

Some time in the indeterminate future a newly branded beer — Fidel has a nice ring to it, although Mr Rose comments "I've not heard it's been finalised" — will hit Britain's pubs and clubs. Selling to a

rather larger and nearer market will prove more difficult, because the United States still imposes a ban on Cuban imports.

The CCC consortium — "I've no objection to you calling it that," concedes Mr Rose — is hoping the embargo will one day be lifted. Perhaps they know something the White House doesn't — whoever they are...

Rewe of Germany to quit Budgens

By SUSAN GILCHRIST

REWE, one of Germany's largest food retailers, is planning to sell its 29 per cent stake in Budgens after the decision by the UK supermarket enterprise to abandon its discount format after less than two years.

The German combine has approached several of Britain's leading food retailers, including J Sainsbury, Tesco and Asda, in an attempt to dispose of all, or part, of its stake, held since April 1993. One industry source remarked: "Rewe is certainly doing the rounds."

Doubts over the relationship between Rewe and Budgens were raised last week after the UK company disclosed it was abandoning its Penny Market discount chain because of competition and mounting losses.

Rewe, which helped to develop the format, promptly launched a scathing attack on Budgens, saying it was a "crassly mistaken decision". Budgens, stung by the criticism, retaliated by saying that Heinz Otto Lühr, Rewe's representative on Budgens' board, had voted against the decision, but had not shown fierce opposition.

Rewe is clearly anxious to sever links, although City analysts believe that the German company may find it difficult to sell. Budgens reported last week a sharp fall in pre-tax profits to £881,000 from £3.05 million in the 28 weeks to November 13. Penny Market made losses of £1.4 million.

GILT-EDGED

Banking on the prejudices of fortysomethings

Experience is a valuable asset in the securities business, but only if it is unaccompanied by prejudice. There is no point in being exposed to new circumstances if there is a concurrent predisposition to learn nothing from them. That is to abuse experience. Unhappily, it is something that we are all prone to as we get older.

Our minds, malleable and absorbent when we are young, become ossified and impenetrable later on. We are capable of becoming progressively wiser as the years pass; but, in most of us, the process is gradually stilled by the cancerous growth of prejudices learned in early life.

Popular perspectives on inflation make the point rather well. Those who spent their impressionable youth in the second half of the Sixties and the Seventies —

when inflation routinely exceeded expectations — seem generally not to be able to adjust their minds to the circumstances of the Eighties and Nineties. Despite 15 years during which inflation consistently undershot their expectations, they continue to predict an imminent return to the traumatic conditions of their youth. For them, clearly, experience has ceased to be of any value. Their minds are immune to the infection of evidence.

Younger people, unsurprisingly, are less bigoted in this respect. Their formative years were spent in a period when inflation was not a problem. They may well have read about the strange circumstances that existed in earlier decades, but they will tend to regard them as being of limited relevance today, much as the rules of chivalry will be deemed to have little

to teach us about modern etiquette.

The oldest generations probably see things most dispassionately. They note that inflation, not having been a problem previously, suddenly became one for a brief spell and then, just as suddenly, disappeared again. From their perspective, rates of increase of prices which are significantly different from zero are an aberration: a statistical fluke that happened once and which may conceivably recur, but probably not for a very long time.

This accords quite closely with economic theory which suggests that, in order to get the general level of prices (as opposed to the cost of an individual item) on a consis-

the Eighties because each of the pre-conditions for inflation was undermined. Most importantly, competition exploded — domestically as a result of privatisations, and globally in consequence of trade liberalisation. At the same time, the toleration of monetary excesses lessened — possibly because of the rising influence inside governments and central banks of those whose prejudices had been shaped by the inflation of the earlier period. In the Nineties, both trends have been extended. All the major central banks (and most of the minor ones) are now in the hands of monetary hawks, while the acceptance of the need for competitive trading conditions is universal (even in Cuba and North Korea). The result will be many more years of low inflation.

That this is not yet recognised by the gilt market makes it all the more compelling. It is precisely because the most influential traders and investors are the "fortysomethings" who are most biased about inflation that it will remain subdued. Not until they become complacent again is there any danger of a serious acceleration.

In the meantime, gilts remain very attractive. We may not get much capital appreciation for a time, but while we wait, we will be rewarded with generous real incomes. The longer the bull market is delayed, moreover, the greater it will eventually be. Bias can only hold valuations in check for a limited period. When the dam finally breaks, the ensuing torrent is proportional to the amount of water released.

ROGER NIGHTINGALE
Global Strategist
W I Carr (Far East) Ltd

Their minds are immune to the infection of evidence

Problems for Ward in fight with Guinness

By SUSAN GILCHRIST

THOMAS WARD, the American lawyer who advised Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, during the £2.7 billion takeover battle for Distillers in 1986, has encountered a series of setbacks in his \$85 million lawsuit against the brewing and drinks combine.

Mr Ward filed a suit last year

against Guinness and certain former directors and advisers which claimed damages for wrongful termination, loss of income, fraud, libel, slander and racketeering.

In December, Judge Harvey Schneider dismissed Mr Ward's case, launched in California, against the US defendants, including several of Guinness's US subsidiaries. Undeterred, Mr Ward is still pursuing a

case against several UK defendants, including Guinness, Shaun Dowling, a former director, Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, who succeeded Mr Saunders as chairman, and Sir Thomas Risk, former Governor of the Bank of Scotland.

Guinness has mounted a vigorous defence, with the company's lawyers claiming that a Californian court does not have the jurisdiction to handle

cases against UK defendants. Mr Ward took legal action after he was cleared at the Old Bailey in 1993 of stealing £5.2 million from Guinness during the Distillers battle. He has repaid the company £1.3 million, but Guinness is still pursuing a civil action to recover the rest.

Meanwhile, the outstanding £3.9 million, taking interest into account, has swollen to £9 million.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5647 (-0.0273)
German mark
2.3862 (-0.0201)
Exchange Index
79.1 (-0.9)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2319.8 (+34.9)
FT-SE 100
3059.7 (+37.5)
New York Dow Jones
3928.64 (+70.65)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
18538.97 (+434.62)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.20	2.08
Austria Sch	17.87	16.37
Belgium Fr	52.36	48.06
Canada \$	2.325	2.165
Cyprus Cyp£	0.781	0.728
Denmark Kr	10.07	9.27
Finland Mk	8.00	7.35
France Fr	8.76	8.11
Germany DM	2.53	2.34
Greece Dr	395.00	370.00
Hong Kong \$	12.86	11.86
Ireland Pt	1.08	0.98
Italy Lira	2646.00	2490.00
Japan Yen	171.50	156.50
Malta	0.618	0.583
Netherlands Gld	2.839	2.609
Norway Kr	11.10	10.30
Portugal Esc	259.00	240.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.36
Spain Ptas	216.50	201.50
Sweden Kr	12.59	11.59
Switzerland Fr	2.16	1.98
Turkey Lira	ref.	82029.0
USA \$	1.675	1.545

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

Inflation expected to stay on target

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S economy should grow by 3 per cent this year and next, while inflation is expected to remain well within its target range, according to the London Business School. The key to this scenario, however, lies in whether the authorities prove successful in slowing activity to a more sustainable rate.

In its latest economic outlook, written before last week's half-point rise in base rates to 6.75 per cent, the LBS predicted that interest rates would rise only to 7 per cent this year. They are expected to stay at this level for some time.

Growth is predicted to be 3 per cent this year and 2.9 per cent in 1996. Underlying inflation, targeted by the Government, is expected to be 2.7 per cent in the fourth quarter of this year and 3 per cent at the

end of 1996, both below the 4 per cent upper limit of the Government's target range.

Much of the growth is expected to come from trade, partly through increased exports, but also through an improved performance at home against imports. The LBS said tight monetary policy and stronger world growth should ensure Britain can run a current account surplus for some years.

The Finance and Leasing Association says the recovery has peaked and a further interest rise is not needed. Although December consumer credit rose 22 per cent year-on-year, to £1,547 million — further evidence of a strong Christmas — finance for new cars fell more than a quarter to £156 million, comparable with the falls in 1990 and 1991.

Voting begins for annual PLC Awards

By MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

ASHTHEAD Group, a past winner of the PLC Awards, is in the running for the top prize in the awards for 1994. It is due to be announced today.

Ashtead, the plant hire group, is one of four candidates shortlisted in the category of company of the year in the awards, which are held by Coopers & Lybrand in association with The Times. The other candidates are Taylor Nelson, the market research company; Sheriff Holdings, the plant hire group; and First Technology, the automotive safety specialist.

In the category of new company of the year, the shortlist comprises Applied Distribution, the warehousing and distribution services group; Trifast Group, the manufacturer and distributor of industrial fasteners; Domnick Hunter, the manufacturer of industrial filters; and Finelist, which distributes vehicle parts.

The entrepreneur of the year will be chosen from Chris Ingram, chairman and chief executive of CIA Group; David Lloyd, chairman of David Lloyd Leisure, and Tim

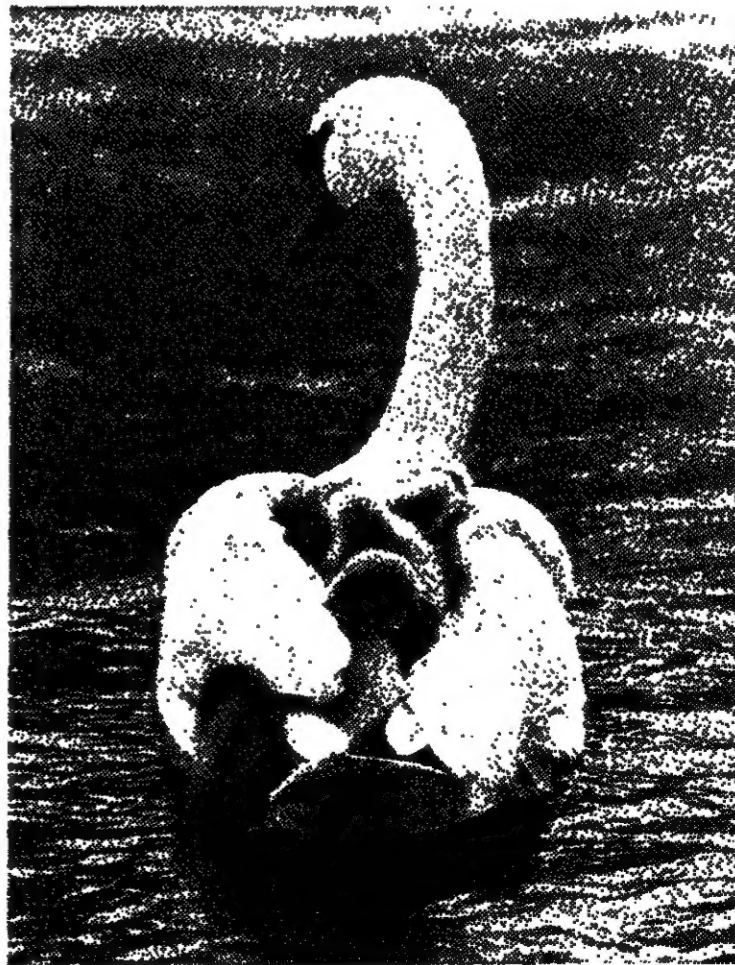
Martin, chairman of JD Wetherspoon.

Shortlists were compiled by a ten-strong voting panel drawn from City firms. Voting coupons will be published in The Times this week and must be received by Graham Cole, the Coopers & Lybrand partner associated with the awards since their inception, by Friday February 17.

Nominations are sought for the inaugural PLC achievement award, in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the PLC market. Awards will also be presented for the fund of the year and best annual accounts. Best performing share price in 1994 was Hawtill Whiting.

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony at London's Grosvenor House Hotel on March 9; the guest speaker will be Sir Tim Bell, the public relations adviser. Mr Cole said: "We are delighted to welcome Sir Tim as our speaker this year and look forward to another successful and enjoyable evening." The PLC dinner has become one of the highlights of the City social calendar.

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Florence	→ London	07.45	09.00	123456*
London	→ Florence	19.10	22.25	123457*
Florence	→ London	17.15	18.30	123457*

* Daily flight March 28.

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Coopers & Lybrand PLC AWARDS

in association with The Times
VOTING PAPER
Please tick one box for each category

- COMPANY OF THE YEAR**
- ☐ Ashtead Group
 - ☐ Taylor Nelson
 - ☐ Sheriff Holdings
 - ☐ First Technology

- NEW COMPANY OF THE YEAR**
- ☐ Applied Distribution
 - ☐ Trifast Group
 - ☐ Domnick Hunter
 - ☐ Finelist

- ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR**
- ☐ Chris Ingram (CIA Group)
 - ☐ David Lloyd (David Lloyd Leisure)
 - ☐ Tim Martin (JD Wetherspoon)

Complete and send voting paper to:
Graham Cole,
Coopers & Lybrand,
Plumtree Court, London EC4A 4HT.

YOUR NAME.....
YOUR ADDRESS..... POSTCODE.....

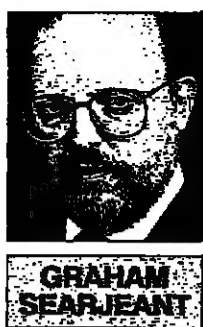
* Nominations must be received not later than Friday, February 17

Before Dutch polder-dwellers could put their feet back under their kitchen tables, the flood inquests began. Citizens are blaming their governments for neglecting river flood defences. Governments are blaming each other for exporting their flood risks. By the time the inquests are over, however, they are likely to bring policy changes affecting business throughout the European Community over the next decade.

The reason is simple. The costly 1995 floods, following abnormally bad seasonal inundations a year ago, will surely create a powerful new constituency dedicated to fighting the threat of global warming. Whether such a threat exists or not is a matter of debate. Since random variations in weather outweigh long-term trends, no one can prove that global warming is to blame. Equally, no one can disprove it.

What does matter is that millions of voters in Germany, France, The Netherlands and Belgium will be much more concerned about the perceived threat. Their governments, all eager to please voters and avoid individual blame, form a powerful block in the Union. Nor will pressure just come from those traditionally concerned about the environment. Costs are mounting. Insurance companies are worried. Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurance company, argued last week: "The most regular floods in Europe point to a possible global warming." Premiums will rise. The

After the flood, a warming challenge for business



GRAHAM SEAL

European Commission has already promised a committee to consider the implications. It will be deluged with concerns about climate change. And an accident of the diplomatic calendar is likely to prove significant. The German Government is scheduled to host a meeting in March of top officials from countries that signed up at Rio, to argue whether commitments made under the climate convention were adequate. Many EU countries are not recommitting to doing too well on their existing commitments. Germany, biggest emitter of "greenhouse gases", will be thinking decidedly green this spring.

One way or another, therefore, global warming is destined to move swiftly up the European agenda. Business and the DTI should consider immediately the threats and opportunities this will bring.

Many of us are hopelessly confused by the different concerns: ozone depletion, acid rain, air pollution, global warming *et al.* Helpfully, they overlap. But the principal claimed source of global warming is the growth of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere: industrial countries pumping it out and poor countries

axeing the trees that absorb it. The main target in Europe will be burning of fossil fuels: coal, oil, gas and peat. That cannot be dealt with by friendly green add-ons like recyclable packaging. It affects every corner of the economy: three quarters of electricity generation; energy-intensive industrial processes such as making cement, paper and chlorine; transport by car, lorry or aeroplane; and gas central heating. Governments have been reluctant to accept environmental theories for good reasons. If the threat of global warming is accepted, then suddenly a wide array of free market costs cease to reflect true economic/social

costs. To redress that, governments would either have to impose taxes and subsidies on the grand scale or a raft of new regulations: unpopular and unwelcome. In Europe, individual governments would be loath to hobble their own industries, leading the Commission to argue for more forest-loads of detailed and inflexible EU rules. Britain has been notably reluctant.

Even for environmental campaigners, the issues are complex and uncomfortable. As Baroness Thatcher spotted, when the Government's brief embraced the green agenda, an easy way to cut carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generation is to switch to nuclear power. That is why France, Europe's prime nuclear generator, was in favour of an EU carbon tax and many others against it. Even that proposed tax had to exempt many energy-intensive industries to keep Europe industrially competitive.

The Government discovered the problems when it tried to put the second tranche of VAT on domestic fuel. This aimed to help the UK meet its commitment to bring carbon dioxide emissions back to 1990 levels by the end of the century. Subtle

measures would clearly be needed. One suggestion is that much higher energy taxes might be acceptable if the proceeds were used to cut other taxes. A phased doubling of petrol duty might finance abolition of employers' national insurance contributions, the jobs tax.

So far, Britain has tried to meet its commitments mainly through the power industry's dash for gas. Combined cycle gas stations are more fuel-efficient than existing coal stations. But Britain's commitments were more modest than those espoused by Germany and The Netherlands — if more realistic. If the EU gets steam up about global warming, it will press for hefty cuts in carbon dioxide emissions from the turn of the century.

Nuclear Electric can offer an answer, though not a popular one. The painless method would be to promote energy efficiency. In the home, microwave ovens have done their little bit. Cars can be designed to travel further on a litre of petrol. Refrigerators, freezers, televisions and lighting that use less electricity already exist, but do not sell well because of their higher capital cost. Cost pressures are forcing industry to use more efficient processes and energy-efficient buildings, but not fast enough.

Sadly, only taxes or regulations seem likely to do the trick. Business should see the way things are going and spend far more effort now to develop the new products that will clean up, than to resist change.

Can America teach British companies how to behave, asks Jane Simms

Law and order in the boardroom

The membership of a new committee to review the working of the Cadbury corporate governance code will be considered next month. Its remit still has to be decided, but it will almost certainly beef up the code of practice being produced by the group of businessmen chaired by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks and Spencer, formed last month to consider guidelines on executive pay.

Despite John Major's comment that attempts to regulate salaries would be dangerous, it may have to bow to popular demand and seek statutory backing for some of its recommendations — perhaps by revising the Companies Acts.

Critics may question what progress another voluntary committee can make, arguing that self-regulation, in the area of executive pay at least, would appear to have failed.

Thomas Clarke, Professor of Corporate Governance at Leeds Business School, says: "In the UK, the climate is one of self-regulation, and the penalties for non-compliance are hardly severe. The whole environment is apparently one of a gentlemen's club. That can't survive much longer."

Sir Adrian Cadbury himself, chief begetter of the Cadbury code, is a great believer in market forces. Yet, when the code (on the financial aspects of corporate gover-

nance) was unleashed at the end of 1992, even he admitted that if companies failed to regulate themselves, legislation would be likely.

Given the lengthy and long-awaited guidance on going concern and internal control, several finance directors believe that corporate governance and accounting standards have become so prescriptive, we may as well have legislation.

In America, rules from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), New York Stock Exchange and Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) combine to create what Professor Clarke calls "a very vibrant and dynamic system: legislation is being applied, and people are being jailed". Whether legislation would improve corporate governance in the UK is debatable.

America's "proxy rules" regulate companies' communications with shareholders about the business and its governance. Companies have to prepare a "proxy statement" in addition to the annual report and accounts. This document — akin to the Operating and Financial Review some UK companies are now producing at the behest of the Accounting Standards Board — forms the basis of US shareholder meetings.

What Joseph Langmead, a partner in KPMG, the US capital markets group in



Sir Adrian, architect of the Cadbury code: warning that legislation might come

London, calls "a fairly robust set of regulations" have evolved gradually and are regularly strengthened. At the end of 1992, a ruling on "proxy reform" allowed any number of shareholders to gather together to discuss company policy — to the extent of taking out newspaper advertisements declaring how they would vote and soliciting other shareholder

views. A new ruling was also introduced on executive compensation. All forms of compensation for the five highest paid officers of a corporation must be clearly disclosed for the past three years. Moreover, the compensation committee has to disclose its methods of setting compensation. Alongside this, the company must show its results in terms of total returns to shareholders — dividends and share price — over a five-year period, compared with others in its industry.

The SEC is not the only regulator. Having an audit committee is a listing condition for the New York Stock Exchange. And FASB has its own set of requirements. An exposure draft on accounting for stock options has recently run into opposition from companies and some parts of Congress.

There is an additional — and very aggressive — set of laws governing banks and savings and loan companies. They must have audit committees, truly independent outside directors, management re-

ports on internal control and auditors reports on management reports on internal control. Mr Langmead, of KPMG, says these laws may be imposed on companies as a whole. However, Amar Bhidé, of Harvard Business School, argues that US rules to protect investors, while promoting market liquidity, actually militate against efficient corporate governance. He reserves most scorn for pension and mutual fund rules that direct trustees and investment managers to diversify their holdings widely. Such rules, he says, "drive a wedge between shareholders and managers". High stock liquidity, he says, encourages investors to sell out rather than confront problems.

Professor Bhidé fears that similar laws being enacted and contemplated by the European Commission and the UK Government, concerning disclosure, market transparency, insider trading and pension fund regulation, while "innocuous" on the surface, will have a similar "pernicious" effect on the way com-

panies are controlled. Professor Clarke says: "The mood of the moment is that self-regulation is not being exercised and that investors are at risk. An ageing population and the current focus on pensions mean there is a pre-occupation with a dependable source of income into the future. As such, investors will continue to be averse to unnecessary risk."

Ann Simpson, managing director of Pensions Investment Research Consultants (PIRC), believes self-regulation should be allowed time to work. The area where she believes the Government must act immediately is in reforming the behaviour of institutional investors.

She says: "Pension fund assets are the largest single source of capital in the economy. But as much of it is traded in and out of shares it neither produces money for the investee company nor value for the pension fund — it just makes money for the intermediaries."

Most institutions do not turn up at annual meetings to hold companies to account: they prefer quiet dialogue behind closed doors and vote with their feet. "They actually have a huge conflict of interest and are loath to bite the hand that feeds them," says Ms Simpson. PIRC and Postle are lobbying the Government to amend the Pensions Bill and force pension funds to lodge their proxies.

"All the effort has gone on how to make buying and selling shares easier," says Ms Simpson. "If the money that has been spent on Crest and Taurus had been spent on thinking about corporate governance, in terms of persuading institutions to switch from a trading to a long-term ownership mentality, we would have reformed the Companies Acts, the Pensions Bill and the tax regime and we would be a lot further down the road."

□ The author is editor of *Financial Director*.

Rank outsider

A DIRECTOR of Rank Organisation has upset the accepted wisdom over executive share options. City institutions maintain that performance targets should be met before company directors cash in their weighty options and suitable guidelines have been laid down. The bosses at Incomes Data Services, the employment research group, have poured over last year's options granted to company directors. They note that four fifths of the cases they looked at last year actually met the basic requirement that earnings per share grew by six per cent or more on top of inflation over a three-year period. But a director at Rank made a gain of £366,004 even though his company's earnings had shrunk by 20 per cent. Rank's share price had, however, risen by 65 per cent over the three years. A rethink on the commonly applied benchmark is called for by the team at IDS. In the meantime, the worried and the whacked are driven from home to office in a van furnished with a therapist's office, a burgundy covered couch, two bucket



and made a median profit of £61,000. A few fat cats, however, pushed the average figure up to £170,000.

Driven

ONLY in America... Wall Street dealers scared of missing a single flicker on their screens if they take time off to see a doctor, but who need to talk to a shrink, can now be analysed on their way to work in specially equipped chauffeur-driven vans. The weary, worried and the whacked are driven from home to office in a van furnished with a therapist's office, a burgundy covered couch, two bucket

seats, and a coffee table with flowers. There is even a clock on the wall. Demand has been so keen that the service, costing \$175 a session and run by New York psychologists Ursula Strauss and Shelly Lennox, now uses four vans and six therapists. The chauffeur is sealed off from the conversations — presumably so that he doesn't become too depressed himself.

IT IS Good Morning Vietnam for Ernst & Young's energy services folk, who are off to Hanoi and Vung Tau on Thursday to run a four-week training course covering Western oil and gas practices for PetroVietnam, Vietnam's state oil company.

Whisky galore

THE winner of Allied Distillers' Laphroaig Fund Manager of the Year competition is given his weight in malt whisky. The 1994 winner was rugby-playing John McKay, portfolio manager for Scottish Widows. What a winner! What a prize! McKay, dressed in kilt, tipped 14.4 stone on the scales and collected 72 bottles. "It will not affect my investment judgment at all," he says.

COLIN CAMPBELL

RADIO CHOICE

A dream of a diary

The Monday Play: *Dreaming Up Laura*. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

"The past can't disappear — it just needs to be unlocked." The advice comes from a lawyer, one of the many (too many?) characters in Paul Hensberg's deeply introspective play. The lawyer, played by Henry Goodman, is instrumental in helping the unlocking process, and the key he uses is the diaries of his emotionally stunted cousin (Shelia Gish). They log her dreams, which reveal her lifelong fixation. Montaigne offered a thought that could be the play's text: if dreams are the true interpreters of our inclinations, art is needed to read and understand them. The fractured chronology in this play did not help me to do either.

Distant Voices. Radio 2, 10.00pm.

Some famous fictional characters are born with a whimper, not a bang. P.G. Wodehouse was watching an inter-county cricket match. One of the bowlers was called Jeeves. The rest, as they say, is history. Baroness Orczy was standing on a London Underground platform when a fearless rescuer was conceived in her mind. She called him the Scarlet Pimpernel. These stories are not conjured out of the myths and mists of time. They come from the mouths of the writers themselves in the archive recordings Jeremy Nicholas presents tonight. I never thought I would hear Tolstoy asking me, not in print, but in his own voice: "Art thou doing the right thing?" This is a marvellous series. Peter Daville

RADIO 1

FM Stereo, 4.00pm Bruno Brookes 6.30pm Steve Wright 8.30pm Simon Mayo 12.00pm Lisa L'Anson with the Lunchtime Show, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00pm Mark Goodier including at 5.30-5.45pm Newsbeat 7.00pm Evening Session 8.00pm Lee and Harro: live comedy from Stewart Lee and Richard Herring 10.00pm Radio 1's Midnight Live 11.00pm

RADIO 2

FM Stereo, 6.00pm Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show 8.15pm Pauline Forster with the 9.30am Show, including at 10.00pm Pick of the Hits 11.30pm Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 5.30pm Ed Stewart 5.45pm John Dunn 7.00pm Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory 7.30pm Campbell Ripman with Dance Band Days, and at 8.00pm Big Band Era 8.30pm Band Special, with the BBC Big Band under Barry Forgie 9.00pm Humphrey Lyttelton 10.00pm Distant Voices. See choice 10.30pm The Jamblers 12.00pm Digby Fawcett with Jazz Notes 1.00pm Steve Madden 3.00-4.00pm Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

2.05pm Test Match Special: Australia v England 7.00pm The Breakfast Programme, including at 7.25pm Racing Preview 8.15pm Test Match Special 8.25pm The Magazine, including at 10.35pm Euronews, 11.00pm Actually 12.00pm Midday with Mark, including at 12.30pm Liz Barclay with Rosemary 2.25pm Pussie on Five, incl at 3.15pm Prime Minister's Question Time 4.00pm John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00pm News Extra, including at 7.20pm 7.25pm Newsnight 1987 — Secret v Rangers 8.00pm Football Forum 10.05pm News Talk, with Neil Dickson 11.00pm Night Extra, incl 11.45pm The Financial World Tonight 12.00pm The Other Side of Midnight 1.00pm Test Match Special: Australia v England

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00pm On Air, with Catriona Young, Humphreys (Overture), Rossini (Marche des remémorances pour mon dernier voyage), D'Almeida (Les Femmes de l'Alcazar), Haydn (String Quartet in A, Op 55 No 1), 8.05pm Butterworth (Two English Idylls), Charles Avison (Concerto grosso No 5 in D minor), Faure (Messe basse) 9.00pm Composer of the Week: Richard Strauss (Sextet, Capriccio; Black vom chern Belvedere; Horn Concerto No 2; Finale, Capriccio) 10.00pm Musical Encounters, with Edward Blunden, including 10.00pm Artist of the Week: John Williams, guitar, Barrios Mangore (La última canción, Cucia); 10.05pm Puccini (Incidental music: The Double Dealer); Giuliani (Guitar Concerto in A, Op 30); Gabriel Pierné (Sonata da camera); Stokaus (En Saga) 12.00pm Britten at the Opera: Julius Benedict's The Life of Killarney. BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth 1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert: Gabriel Bratt Ensemble performs Britten (Fantasy for St Edmundsbury; Russian Funerals); Handel (Three Duets, The Compleat Tutor for the French Horn); Hugh Wood (Funeral Music); Thomas Simpson (Ballad); Intrada; Canzone); Robert Simpson (Canzone for brass); Skjoldmund von Neukorn (Svalbard for solo trumpet); A March for a brass band) 2.00pm Schools: Twentieth-Century Soundscapes: 15 Storybook 2.15pm The World 2.45pm First Steps in Drama 3.00pm A Brace of Concertos: Ursula Holliger, harp; Lausanne Concert Orchestra under Heinz Holliger; Oboe; Glinzler (Harp Concerto); Lutoslawski (Double Concerto for oboe and harp) 3.45pm Pachelbel's organist Hans Fagius explores the music of Johann Pachelbel. First of three programmes 4.30pm Classic Tracks: Richard Herring talks about bluesman he recorded in the Louisiana State Penitentiary 5.00pm The Mistle Machine: Tommy Pearson investigates pop songs 5.15pm In Tune, with Richard Baker 7.30pm BBC Symphony Orchestra under John Neschling; Sylvia McNair, soprano; London Children's Choir; Meier (Symphony No 4); Kanchell (Light Sorrow) 9.05pm The English Concert: Jeremy Summerly 9.20pm New Waves: Beethoven (into the Future); Ensemble; Baroque (Spotted) 10.15pm Samuel Barber: Music for a Scare from Shelley, Op 7; Adagio for strings, Op 11 10.30pm The John Field Nocturnes: No 12 in G; No 17 in E (Daniel Adin, piano) 10.45pm Making it With Robert Sandall and Mark Russell 11.30-12.30am Music Resonator: The Sidesen under Harry Christophers performs music from the Elton Chocbook 1.00-2.00am Night Session: 1.20pm Singing Together

RADIO 4

6.55am Shipping Forecast 8.00pm News Briefing 8.10pm Today 8.25pm Prayer for the Day with Stephen Batchelor, Buddhist writer and teacher 6.30pm Today, including 7.00pm, 7.30pm, 8.00pm, 8.30pm News 7.25pm Sports News 7.45pm Thought for the Day 8.40pm Who Goes Home: Roy Hattersley looks back at a lifetime in the Labour Party 8.55pm Weather 9.00pm News 9.05pm Start the Week, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Allison Pearson, with A. Alvarez, Michèle Welter, Anthony Wall and Patrick Wormald 10.00-10.30pm News: Worldly Wise (FM only); Peter Hobbey returns with the panel game about words and their origins 10.00pm Daily Service (LW only), from the Memorial Chapel, University of Glasgow 10.15pm Pilgrim's Progress (LW only), by John Bunyan (21/25) 10.30pm Women's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray 11.30pm Henry Box Live: 0171-580 4444 12.00pm News: You and Yours, with David Brehan 12.25pm Counterpoint: Ned Sherrin presents the music quiz 12.55pm Weather 1.00pm The World at One 1.40pm The Archers (1/155) Shipping Forecast 2.00pm News: Rediscovering Leo: In John Harrison's play, Paul Scofield plays a reclusive composer and Samantha Bond a journalist 3.00pm The Afternoon Show: An hour of live action with stories from all over Britain

RADIO 1: FM 97.5-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 89-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 156. RADIO 5: 639kHz/433m. 899kHz/230m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m. FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m. FM 95.8. GWR: FM 94.5. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/495m. CLASSIC: FM 100-102. VIRGIN: MW 1215, 1187, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Massey

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Hail and farewell to the American invaders

Such a big day for Yankees at the court of King Arthur yesterday. Little Lord Fauntleroy finally got himself sorted out at his English castle in the afternoon, but then the second wave crashed in at 9.05pm, to the distant tune of "Over there" from Yankee Doodle Dandy. The four dauntless American girls in *The Buccaneers* rolled up by shiny carriage, to exclaim at the raked gravel, show off their virgin décolletage, and accept without comment that curious thing so baffling to American cousins — that in aristocratic English circles, names spell what they seem. Why such similar stories? Anything to do with co-production money? Listen to the future and hear its approaching song. "Over! We're going over! And we won't come back, till it's over there!"

It was a relief that things turned out well in *Little Lord Fauntleroy*

(BBC 1). This was a surprisingly gripping tear-jerker, beautifully acted and wittily made, with clever incidental music such as the pet dog as big as a cow. In the past couple of weeks, coarse, horrid Yankee preachers had shown up at Dorchester to wrest the Little Lord's rightful title from him — a fat boy modelled on Pugsley in *The Adams Family*, and a gloriously bedevilled mother who scared the pants off the entire household. Dressed in loud clashing tartans, this wicked witch breezed through the library as though she owned the joint, snapped impertinent questions such as "How's the earl fixed?" and stopped just short of cracking her knuckles and spitting in the fireplace.

All this was wormwood to the chauvinist Earl, and it taught him an important lesson. He had wronged the Little Lord's beautifully mannered mother. He had tarred all American women with

the same brush: "I have been a great fool, madam, and now I am wretched and miserable," he confessed to the lovely, passive daughter-in-law with the big doe eyes (whom her rival dismissed as a "sop with too much justice"). Sappiness was, however, fully rewarded in the end, and the big bear of Dorchester (George Baker, all gruff and twinkles) finally requested this well-bred gazelle to trot into his castle and take her true place at his side, like — er, well like a bear and a gazelle with a big dog like a cow.

Meanwhile those handsome and spirited hussies in *Edith Wharton's The Buccaneers* (BBC 1) look set to face much the same problem as the Little Lord's mum (grim castles, loveless aristocrats, but on the other hand may be too busy yelping, running and tumbling sexily on lawns to notice precisely



what's going on. Here are girls who are supremely headless of laundering, it seems. "Not in your best things!" is an exclamation that holds no meaning for them.

"What's next?" said the young American actresses each day on the set, as they smoothed down yet another gorgeous, pristine bouffant, adjusted their tumbling curls, and made sure some unblemished bumps showed feath-

ingly at the front. "I think we'll have you running again for no reason," said the director, Philip Saville. "No lines, just running, hopping, grabbing at each other's skirts and falling down breathless. Pretend you're about to sing 'I Feel Pretty' from *West Side Story*."

"OK," they said. "Imagine we're getting paid for this!" And off they bubbled again. The *Buccaners* were great. They forgot all that stuff about Edith Wharton anatomising old-time New York with scalp and microscope. The *Buccaners* are conceived differently here, as a big story with lots of characters, expensive, well acted and lovely to look at (despite the presence of dead trees in summer). Some of the new dialogue sounds a bit ropey, but the leathered hats make up for it. Meanwhile, delicate social ranking concepts have been duly swept aside or spelt out in big letters. Simply, our four heroine

are Not Good Enough for New York society; and the half-Brazilian Conchita (Mira Sorvino) is unluckiest of all, because her stepfather runs a casino on 24th Street. "That's about as smart as you can get in New York," she informed her startled English in-laws on first introduction. Weird, that Conchita's second language is Spanish, by the way. In Brazil it is usually Portuguese.

Naturally, we will return to *The Buccaneers* next week. But in the meantime we can't ignore those wretched fugitive Jordaches in *Brookside* (Channel 4), who were finally calmed on Friday, thank goodness, after spending an entire week of peak time hanging around Dublin and Dun Laoghaire with their hands in their pockets, biting their lips at the sight of policemen. "Why are we doing this?" they kept asking each other in eternal tea

rooms and featureless Bed and Breakfasts. "Are you sure you want to go through with this?" "I don't know how you can think of eating at a time like this!"

Time usually speeds up for fugitives, but curiously for the Jordaches in Sam Beckers' home town, it slowed down to a virtual halt. "Why am I watching this?" I asked myself, as the life drained wearily from my legs into the sofa. "Am I sure I want to go through with this?" How can I think about eating, etcetera. By the time the *nee-naws* turned up, I felt as tired as Mandy Jordache looked (which is saying something). Luckily, the story regularly shifted back to the secure banalities of Brookside Close — Bev had arranged a house-warming party! — just in time to save my brain from suffocation. All in all, it was a very odd week in the life of Brookside. I never thought I'd be so happy to watch Ron Dixon paint a door.

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

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BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast with Paul Burden and Sara Coughlin (87896)
- 7.00 Breakfast News (82910544)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (8438235)
- 10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8431544) 10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekend magazine (s) (88073780)
- 12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1316070) 12.05 Pebble Mill (s) (2542612) 12.55 Regional News and weather (75624902)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (59594)
- 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (8242051) 1.50 Timekeepers. Quiz show. The question-master is Bill Dod (s) (8425167)
- 2.15 Knots Landing. American drama serial (s) (6783780) 3.00 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares another meal (4709)
- 3.30 Cartoon Double Bill. Cagney Canary and Bug Parade (898438) 3.45 Dodger and Bag Parade (897498) 4.00 Jackanory. Imelda Staunton with the first part of Jenny Nimmo's story *Celia and the Dishwater Dogs* (s) (4754167) 4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant. (Ceefax) (s) (2736411) 4.35 Tomorrow's End. Science-fiction adventures (r) (Ceefax) (5942709)
- 5.00 Newsworld (898964) 5.10 Blue Peter. (Ceefax) (s) (9022544)
- 5.35 Neighbours. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (308780)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (273)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (525)
- 7.00 Champion Telly Addicts. The Wilson family, winners in 1992, meet last year's champions, the "Warriors Gate" team. Presented by Noel Edmonds (s) (9490)
- 7.30 Watchdog. A plumber reveals some of the devious tricks of his trade. (Ceefax) (s) (709)

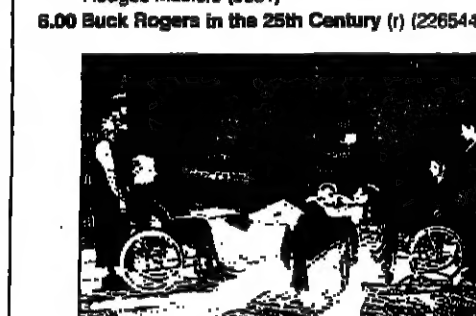


Albert Square's Lucy Speed, Sid Owen (8.00pm)

- 8.00 EastEnders. Natalie's hopes are raised, and Ricky has to decide where his loyalties lie. (Ceefax) (s) (5438)
- 8.30 The Detectives. Comedy series starring Jasper Carrott, Robert Powell and George Sewell. (Ceefax) (s) (7273)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (8983)
- 9.30 Panorama. An examination of the case of Private Lee Clegg. (Ceefax) (188815)
- 10.10 FILM: Flashback (1990) starring Kiefer Sutherland and Dennis Hopper. Comedy thriller about a stand-up comedian who is accused of a crime committed at a political rally. Directed by Francis Armani. (Ceefax) (s) (857322) Northern Ireland: The Back Page 10.35 FILM: Flashback 12.00am Film 95 12.55-1.35 Snooker
- 11.55 FILM 95 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *Star Trek: Generations* and *Trapped in Paradise*. (Ceefax) (s) (195148)
- 12.25am Snooker. Highlights of the day's play in the Benson and Hedges Masters (3891755)
- 1.05 Weather (4175484)

BBC2

- 6.20 Open University: An Introduction to Psychology — Autism (199502) 6.45 Los Angeles: City of the Future? (5495999) 7.35 A Question of Balance? (2175032)
- 8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) and signing (7830898)
- 8.15 NEW Westminster On-Line. Sarah Barker presents the programme that gives the public access to politicians. The guest is Virginia Bottomley, MP (s) (4423896)
- 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25 Playdays (2470341) 2.00 Tales of Aesop (4199586) 2.05 Rupert (4199416)
- 2.10 Snooker. Dougie Donnelly introduces action in the Benson and Hedges Masters. Continues at 4.30. Includes News and weather at 3.00 (571457) 3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (3113438)
- 4.00 Today's Day. Recent history quiz (s) (438)
- 4.30 Snooker. Further coverage of the Benson and Hedges Masters (8931)
- 5.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (r) (226544)



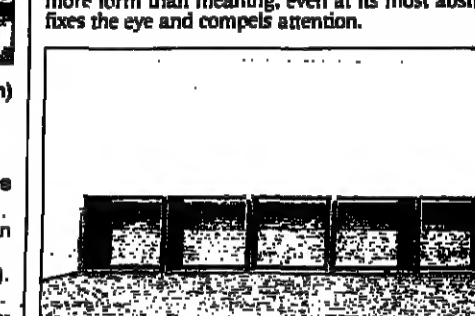
CandoCo Company dances Outside in (6.45pm)

- 6.45 FILM: Dance for the Camera (s) (829089)
- 7.00 The Private Life of Plants: The Social Struggle (r) (Ceefax) (s) (422186)
- 7.50 Travel Show — Short Cuts. A beach hut and San Francisco house swap (s) (473254)
- 8.00 Horizon: Air Crash — The Deadly Puzzle (r) (Ceefax) (s) (635964)
- 8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. O is for Quiet Evenings in. (Ceefax) (s) (799099)
- 9.00 Steppe and Son (b/w). Classic rag-and-bone men comedy (r) (Ceefax) (6525)
- 9.30 Signs and Wonders. The final episode of the drama about an English family whose daughter is enticed into a Los Angeles-based religious cult. (Ceefax) (s) (3723)
- 10.30 Newsworld with Peter Snow. An investigation into Mark Thatcher's business deals in the United States. (Ceefax) (491544)
- 11.15 FILM: Big Art in a One Horse Town (s) (34780)
- 11.55 Weather (793964)
- 12.00 Seize the Fire. Tom Paulin's dramatisation of Aeschylus's *Prometheus Bound* (41910)
- 12.30am Introduction to Design (5825561)
- 1.20 The Record. Robert Orchard with the day's news from Parliament (9056723). Ends at 1.50
- 2.00-4.00 Night School: Zig Zag and Landmarks (48674)
- 4.45-5.15 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (6034037) 5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture (1981552)
- 5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update (59939)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode
The number next to each TV programme code is a VideoPlus+ number, which allows you to programme your video recorder around a programme. For more information on the VideoPlus+ system, see the VideoPlus+ section on page 10. For more information on the VideoPlus+ system, see the VideoPlus+ section on page 10.

CHOICE

Cutting Edge: For Richer, For Poorer
Channel 4, 9.00pm
An engaging film by Lucy Sandys-Winsch proves yet again that the simplest documentary ideas often yield the best results. Her notion was to take three engaged couples and follow them through to their weddings. The clever bit was selecting people from different social backgrounds. Superficially the pattern of preparation, ceremony and reception is the same. The implicit message is about class, status and money. For Chris, a banker, and his bride Elizabeth, it is a morning dress affair with a wedding breakfast at the Ritz. For Julie and Peter, teenagers on state benefits, the register office is followed by a knees-up in a pub. Socially somewhere in between, Rob, a self-made businessman with designer snubles, weds his wife in a humanist ceremony at a hired country mansion.



The minimalism of Donald Judd (BBC2, 11.15pm)

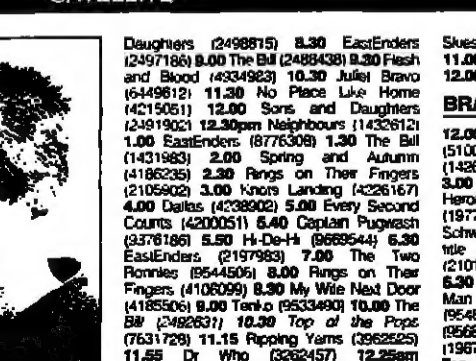
Big Art in a One Horse Town
BBC2, 11.15pm
Another Monday night treat from *The Late Show* examines the impact of an avant-garde artist on a small town in Texas. The sculptor Donald Judd made his reputation in New York as a pioneer of minimalism. In the early 1970s he decided to uproot and take his cool, austere art to the little cow town of Marfa. He bought up disused buildings, filling them with his work, and acquired more than 30,000 acres of land. The local red-necks did not know what to make of this reclusive figure and his baffling creations. He was even accused of being a devil-worshipper. A year after Judd's death the programme visits Marfa to assess his lasting impact. There is still puzzlement, though one elderly woman from the bridge club admits: "I finally decided he was a genius."

NYPD Blue
Channel 4, 10.00pm
Sometimes you wish the camera would keep still for a couple of minutes, instead of panning giddily back and forth as in the hands of a madman. Sometimes the dialogue is delivered too quickly to be comprehensible, at least for British ears unused to New York-speak. This is still a superior cop series, a show of grit and style. The police work itself is unexceptional, a matter of hard slog rather than lucky clues or inspired deductions. But the camera is characterful and atmospheric, and from this side of the Atlantic, at least, both seem utterly authentic. This is a tribute to the casting, use of locations and, above all, the script. Peter Waymark

CARLTON

- 6.00am GMTV (1965525)
- 9.25am News. World news with Ted Robbins (4235538) 9.55am London Today (Teletext) and weather (2457490)
- 10.00 The Time...the Place (s) (4581457)
- 10.35 This Morning (90825167) 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (1312254)
- 12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (4231761)
- 1.25 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (4249782) 1.25 Home and Away (Teletext) (61805506)
- 1.55 Capital News. A report on the Parent Information Network (s) (61820475) 2.25 A Country Practice (s) (61216525) 2.50 Blue Heelers. PJ turns debt collector (9033136)
- 3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (7785070) 3.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (7784341)
- 3.30 Rainbow (r) (9880254) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (3104780)
- 3.50 Taz-Mania (r) (s) (7841418) 4.15 Harry's Mad (Teletext) (s) (742099) 4.45 Art Attack (Teletext) (s) (5926761)
- 5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (995772)
- 5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (672902)
- 5.55 Your Show Viewers' opinions (586512)
- 6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (341)
- 6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (693)
- 7.00 Wish You Were Here...? Martin Roberts looks at a children-only summer camp in Surrey. Linda Lusard leaps up the sun in Rhodes; and Judith Chalmers reports from St Lucia. (Teletext) (s) (4188)
- 7.30 Coronation Street (Teletext) (877)
- 8.00 Lucky Numbers with Shane Ritchie (9326)
- 8.30 World in Action looks into allegations that one of Britain's largest police forces is operating an unofficial policy of not investigating drug-related deaths. (Teletext) (s) (2341)

Richard Gere and Julia Roberts (9.00pm)

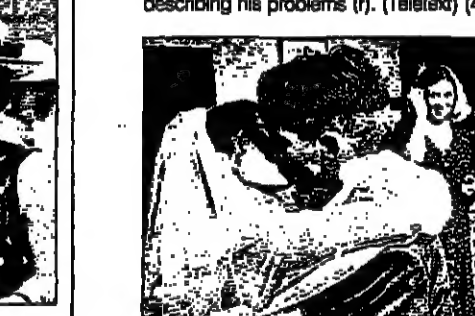


Richard Gere and Julia Roberts (9.00pm)

- 9.00 FILM: Pretty Woman (1990). Prostitute Julia Roberts comes to the aid of ruthless corporate mogul Richard Gere when he is lost in downtown Hollywood, little realising the effect this meeting will have on both of their lives. Directed by Garry Marshall (2815)
- 10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (97089)
- 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (123761)
- 10.40 FILM: Pretty Woman (continued) (4587419)
- 11.55 The Equalizer (19612)
- 12.00am Endeavour League Extra (1046216)
- 1.35 Sport AM with Bob Symonds (8901571)
- 2.35 Quiz Night (7919007)
- 3.00 FILM: The Last Hours (1982, b/w) starring Mark Stevens and Jean Kent. An American pilot returns to England for a Second World War reunion, only to find himself suspected of murder. Directed by David MacDonald (5937216)
- 4.15 Profile. Featuring Malcolm McLaren and Buddy Guy (s) (3521129)
- 4.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (68531397)
- 4.55 The Time...the Place (6196910)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (46465). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.35 Once Upon A Time — Life (r) (8376964)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (72815)
- 9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (74148)
- 9.30 Schools. Geography Start Here! (8443148) 9.45 Talk, Write and Read (9466059) 10.02 Stage Two Science (6249059) 10.20 Place and People (6235585) 10.40 The English Programme (3178780) 11.00 Encyclopaedia (2219254) 11.15 The Music Show (9838709) 11.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3574032) 11.45 Junior Technology (3502815)
- 12.00 Right To Reply (r) (Teletext) (s) (87612)
- 12.30 Sesame Street with guests Lea Salonga and Andrea Martin (63273) 1.30 Little Miss Grown-up (Teletext) (s) (1544945)
- 1.55 The Pulse (r) (1612)
- 2.25 Travels in the Caric: Switzerland (r) (s) (254)
- 3.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's music and topical chat show (s) (6496167)
- 3.55 The 3,000 Mile Garden (r) (Teletext) (s) (8489254)
- 4.30 News (Teletext) and weather (490)
- 5.00 The Golden Girls: Fiddler On the Ropes (r) (2964)
- 5.30 Nurses: This Joint Is Jumpin'. Comedy series set in a Miami hospital (r) (s) (977)
- 6.00 The Cosby Show (r) (Teletext) (s) (883)
- 6.30 Hangin' With Mr. Cooper. Campus comedy starring Mark Curry. (Teletext) (s) (235)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (417254)
- 7.50 The Slot. Viewers' soapbox series (468322)
- 8.00 Little Killers: The Great Escape. A look at the mink, imported into British fur farms, which escaped to become established in the wild. (Teletext) (8148)
- 8.30 Only When I Laugh. Comedy series set in a hospital ward where, this week, one of the patients has sent a confidential letter to an agony aunt describing his problems (r) (Teletext) (4483)



Newlyweds Julia and Peter Graham (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Cutting Edge: For Richer, For Poorer. (Teletext) (s) (8047)
- 10.00 NYPS Blue: Cop Suey. (Teletext) (s) (415964)
- 10.55 Stephanie Hodge: Straight Up. Stand up comedy recorded at San Francisco's Great American Theater in 1991 (s) (738612)
- 11.30 Pasolini Season: Theorem (1968) starring Terence Stamp, Silvana Mangano and Massimo Girotti. A drama about the effect on the members of a family of the arrival, unannounced, of a mysterious stranger (819322)
- 1.25am Harold Lloyd: The Third Genius. The second and final part of a documentary profile of the comedy actor. (r) (Teletext) (s) (1544945)
- 2.30 Eye 2 Eye. Design quiz (r) (s) (2146699)
- 3.05 FILM: Muehle Hiss. Chances (1935). Vintage comedy musical about a day in the life of beleaguered Henry Hall. Directed by Thomas Bentley, Alexander Eassey, Walter Summers and Arthur Woods (5384129). Ends at 4.20

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (2457490) 12.20pm Anglia News (1312254) 12.55 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (82447506) 2.20 Houseprice (1010050) 2.30-3.30 Anglia News (8031182) 3.35-3.50 Anglia News (8031182) 4.00-4.10 Anglia News (8031182) 4.15-4.30 Anglia News (8031182) 4.35-4.50 Anglia News (8031182) 4.55-5.00 Anglia News (8031182) 5.05-5.30 Anglia News (8031182) 5.35-5.50 Anglia News (8031182) 5.55-6.00 Anglia News (8031182) 6.05-6.30 Anglia News (8031182) 6.35-6.50 Anglia News (8031182) 6.55-7.00 Anglia News (8031182) 7.05-7.30 Anglia News (8031182) 7.35-7.50 Anglia News (8031182) 7.55-8.00 Anglia News (8031182) 8.05-8.30 Anglia News (8031182) 8.35-8.50 Anglia News (8031182) 8.55-9.00 Anglia News (8031182) 9.05-9.30 Anglia News (8031182) 9.35-9.50 Anglia News (8031182) 9.55-10.00 Anglia News (8031182) 10.05-10.30 Anglia News (8031182) 10.35-10.50 Anglia News (8031182) 10.55-11.00 Anglia News (8031182) 11.05-11.30 Anglia News (8031182) 11.35-11.50 Anglia News (8031182) 11.55-12.00 Anglia News (8031182) 12.05-12.30 Anglia News (8031182) 12.35-12.50 Anglia News (8031182) 12.55-1.00 Anglia News (8031182) 1.05-1.30 Anglia News (8031182) 1.35-1.50 Anglia News (8031182) 1.55-2.00 Anglia News (8031182) 2.05-2.30 Anglia News (8031182) 2.35-2.50 Anglia News (8031182) 2.55-3.00 Anglia News (8031182) 3.05-3.30 Anglia News (8031182) 3.35-3.50 Anglia News (8031182) 3.55-4.00 Anglia News (8031182) 4.05-4.30 Anglia News (8031182) 4.35-4.50 Anglia News (8031182) 4.55-5.00 Anglia News (8031182) 5.05-5.30 Anglia News (8031182) 5.35-5.50 Anglia News (8031182) 5.55-6.00 Anglia News (8031182) 6.05-6.30 Anglia News (8031182) 6.35-6.50 Anglia News (8031182) 6.55-7.00 Anglia News (8031182) 7.05-7.30 Anglia News (8031182) 7.35-7.50 Anglia News (8031182) 7.55-8.00 Anglia News (8031182) 8.05-8.30 Anglia News (8031182) 8.35-8.50 Anglia News (8031182) 8.55-9.00 Anglia News (8031182) 9.05-9.30 Anglia News (8031182) 9.35-9.50 Anglia News (8031182) 9.55-10.00 Anglia News (8031182) 10.05-10.30 Anglia News (8031182) 10.35-10.50 Anglia News (8031182) 10.55-11.00 Anglia News (8031182) 11.05-11.30 Anglia News (8031182) 11.35-11.50 Anglia News (8031182) 11.55-12.00 Anglia News (8031182) 12.05-12.30 Anglia News (8031182) 12.35-12.50 Anglia News (8031182) 12.55-1.00 Anglia News (8031182) 1.05-1.30 Anglia News (8031182) 1.35-1.50 Anglia News (8031182) 1.55-2.00 Anglia News (8031182) 2.05-2.30 Anglia News (8031182) 2.35-2.50 Anglia News (8031182) 2.55-3.00 Anglia News (8031182) 3.05-3.30 Anglia News (8031182) 3.35-3.50 Anglia News (8031182) 3.55-4.00 Anglia News (8031182) 4.05-4.30 Anglia News (8031182) 4.35-4.50 Anglia News (8031182) 4.55-5.00 Anglia News (8031182) 5.05-5.30 Anglia News (8031182) 5.35-5.50 Anglia News (8031182) 5.55-6.00 Anglia News (8031182) 6.05-6.30 Anglia News (8031182) 6.35-6.50 Anglia News (8031182) 6.55-7.00 Anglia News (8031182) 7.05-7.30 Anglia News (8031182) 7.35-7.50 Anglia News (8031182) 7.55-8.00 Anglia News (8031182) 8.05-8.30 Anglia News (8031182) 8.35-8.50 Anglia News (8031182) 8.55-9.00 Anglia News (8031182) 9.05-9.30 Anglia News (8031182) 9.35-9.50 Anglia News (8031182) 9.55-10.00 Anglia News (8031182) 10.05-10.30 Anglia News (8031182) 10.35-10.50 Anglia News (8031182) 10.55-11.00 Anglia News (8031182) 11.05-11.30 Anglia News (8031182) 11.35-11.50 Anglia News (8031182) 11.55-12.00 Anglia News (8031182) 12.05-12.30 Anglia News (8031182) 12.35-12.50 Anglia News (8031182) 12.55-1.00 Anglia News (8031182) 1.05-1.30 Anglia News (8031182) 1.35-1.50 Anglia News (8031182) 1.55-2.00 Anglia News (8031182) 2.05-2.30 Anglia News (8031182) 2.35-2.50 Anglia News (8031182) 2.55-3.00 Anglia News (8031182) 3.05-3.30 Anglia News (8031182) 3.35-3.50 Anglia News (8031182) 3.55-4.00 Anglia News (8031182) 4.05-4.30 Anglia News (8031182) 4.35-4.50 Anglia News (8031182) 4.55-5.00 Anglia News (8031182) 5.05-5.30 Anglia News (8031182) 5.35-5.50 Anglia News (8031182) 5.55-6.00 Anglia News (8031182) 6.05-6.30 Anglia News (8031182) 6.35-6.50 Anglia News (8031182) 6.55-7.00 Anglia News (8031182) 7.05-7.30 Anglia News (8031182) 7.35-7.50 Anglia News (8031182) 7.55-8.00 Anglia News (8031182) 8.05-8.30 Anglia News (8031182) 8.35-8.50 Anglia News (8031182) 8.55-9.00 Anglia News (8031182) 9.05-9.30 Anglia News (8031182) 9.35-9.50 Anglia News (8031182) 9.55-10.00 Anglia News (8031182) 10.05-10.30 Anglia News (8031182) 10.35-10.50 Anglia News (8031182) 10.55-11.0



Kenneth Clarke, centre, with his counterparts, Theo Waigel, of Germany, left, and Robert Rubin, of the US, in Toronto

US and Europe paper over G7's \$50 billion Mexico rift

FROM RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

FINANCE ministers and central bankers from the leading Western countries emerged from the G7 meeting in Toronto with word that "unanimous and unequivocal approval" had been achieved for the \$50 billion US-led bailout of the Mexican economy.

The announcement of the agreement papered over the rift between the US, which originally proposed the bailout, and several European countries, notably Britain and Germany. The ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, spent most of the two days discussing the loan guarantees to Mexico and somewhat less time discussing reform of the International Monetary Fund and Russia's economy.

Included in the rescue package was a stern warning to Mexico to stay on track. Robert Rubin, US Treasury Secretary, said on Saturday: "We all agreed that the Ameri-

can programme and the IMF programme must be conditional on very strong economic conditions with respect to Mexico, and must be phased to ensure the Mexican economic policies stay on track. Our consultations were not as full as we would have liked, but we had to act in a very short period of time."

The Americans, who originally proposed a \$40 billion bailout, subsequently announced an international support plan worth a further \$10 billion. The final package includes \$20 billion from the US, \$17.5 billion from the IMF and \$10 billion from Europe and Japan funnelled through the Bank for International Settlements.

Mr Rubin acknowledged that the European contingent had grumbled over their role in coming to the rescue of the Mexican economy and its falling peso. However, he insisted that the problem with

the Europeans was solved. The meeting's host, Paul Martin, the Canadian Finance Minister, said the G7 looked forward "to making institutions like the IMF more able to monitor the world's economic troubles and step in faster when the next crisis occurs".

The fallout from the Mexican crisis appears to have convinced several member countries that reform of the IMF is now a priority. Several participants came away reluctantly accepting the US argument that the collapse of the Mexican economy could trigger a world financial collapse.

US representatives argued that if Mexico was to default on billions of dollars of bonds it would spark a pullout of investors, not just from Mexico but from other developing economies around the world.

Mr Martin dismissed concerns that the scale of the \$50 billion rescue operation may have stretched the financial

resources of the IMF and that it might not be able to put together another similar financial rescue should a similar crisis arise elsewhere in the developing world.

He argued that the agreement reached in Toronto to help the Mexicans proved that the international community enjoyed control of global money markets.

Certain European officials voiced doubts that the Mexico crisis was as dire as the US had painted it and complained that they had been dragged into supporting the plan.

Mr Rubin appears to have emerged as something of a hero from the meeting because it was he who convinced President Clinton a week ago that unless the US came to the Mexico's rescue, an international financial collapse could ensue. It was Mr Rubin who convinced Mr Clinton that the US had to turn to the IMF for additional help.

Silence in the Rank on Gifford

RANK ORGANISATION, the largest leisure group in Britain, declined to comment yesterday on the future of Michael Gifford, its chief executive, after a report that he is to quit the company within a few months (Susan Gilchrist writes).

An article in *The Mail on Sunday* claimed that Mr Gifford has reached an agreement with the board to resign, and is likely to go with a £1 million pay-off. Mr Gifford, 59, has spearheaded Rank for more than a decade, and is not due to retire for three years. He has built a reputation as a tough hands-on executive, well-known for his blunt style.

Speculation over a personality clash between Mr Gifford and Sir Denis Henderson, the head of ICI who takes over as chairman of Rank next month, is perceived as wide of the mark. Sources close to both men dismissed such suggestions.

The Mail on Sunday article alleges that Mr Gifford intends to move to America for personal reasons. (Diary, page 42)

Power sale prospectus stresses dividend rise

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE pathfinder prospectus for the £4 billion offer for sale of shares in PowerGen and National Power, published today, will forecast sharp dividend growth in an attempt to generate widespread public interest.

But the prospect of a 20 per cent yield on the shares, based on the first instalment to be paid and the subsequent dividends, will be counterbalanced by a three-page "health warning", which sets out the often confrontational relationship between the companies and Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator.

A surprise eleventh-hour intervention by Professor Littlechild, Director-General of the Office of Electricity Regulation, has already caused a week's delay in publication.

Ten days ago Professor Littlechild embarrassed all parties involved in the float when he reported that electric-

Trafalgar referral decision soon

THE City expects a decision this week from Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, on whether to refer Trafalgar House's £12 billion takeover bid for Northern Electric to the Monopolies and Mergers

Commission. The Treasury is unlikely to endorse over a reference before the National Power/PowerGen share sale. Apart from an adverse price impact, news of a reference would also strain relations further be-

tween the Government and Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator.

One option is that Mr Heseltine could still act should Trafalgar not ring-fence the generator, and retain transparent accounting.

ity prices are running well above the levels agreed with the two companies a year ago, the last time he intervened in the generation industry.

The Director-General's last-minute statement, coming just three days before the pathfinder was due to be published, was subsequently incorporated into the document, thus necessitating the delay.

Professor Littlechild said he had been reassured by both companies that prices had been forced higher by events outside their control, namely unexpected breakdowns, particularly in nuclear generat-

ing plant. He added that he would monitor the situation closely to ascertain whether the companies were complying with the agreement reached early last year.

Advisers have also had to insert a page in the prospectus that attempts to lay out the policies of Labour and the Liberal Democrats towards the industry and the companies.

Labour's stance, in so far as it can be derived from statements in the House of Commons and policy documents, is perceived as relatively benign, with renational-

isation not seen as a strong priority.

The £4 billion sale, comprising the Government's outstanding 40 per cent stake in both companies, will focus sharply on earnings prospects. The companies are thus expected to confirm analysts' estimates of rises of 16 to 18 per cent in dividends for the current year, which ends in March, and emphasise ongoing dividend largesse.

Both companies have stated that they can reduce their dividend cover, currently up to 3.8 in the case of PowerGen, down to 2.5. This serves to

underline the prospect of significant dividend growth.

A recent research circular from Kleinwort Benson, the broker acting as joint financial adviser to the Treasury on the sale, focused on an estimated 15 to 20 per cent annual dividend growth from the two power combines, and claimed that only a "handful" of stocks enjoyed higher prospective returns.

John Baker, chief executive of National Power, and Ed Wallis, his counterpart at PowerGen, will both attend a high-profile launch for the prospectus. They will then depart, along with other executives, on a two-week international roadshow designed to drum up overseas interest.

A source within one of the companies told *The Times* over the weekend: "It is not in our interests for the risks to be underplayed. We want the sale to go ahead, but full disclosure is required so that the investor is in no doubt."

Graham Searjeant, page 42

British Land ready to buy 320 pubs from Innentrepreneur

BY CARL MORTSHED

BRITISH LAND is poised to buy the freeholds of some 320 public houses in the Chef & Brewer chain that are being sold by Innentrepreneur Estates, the Grand Metropolitan and Courage joint venture.

John Ribbans' property group, which recently clinched the takeover of Stanhope Properties, has emerged as the frontrunner to acquire the pubs chain with a bid understood to be in excess of £200 million. Rival bidders for the assets, which are leased to Scottish & Newcastle, the brewing combine, included Burford and Argent, the quoted property firms.

In a refinancing, the pubs were transferred for £203 million last year to a special purpose company owned by Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank. GrandMet and Courage have jointly guaranteed the financing and will benefit or lose in equal measure from any uplift or shortfall against the transfer price.

Key attraction to British Land is thought to be the £18 million income guaranteed by Scottish & Newcastle, which

could offer a yield of almost 9 per cent on the purchase price along with a strong covenant from S&N. Leases average 20 years, but S&N will be keen to ensure that shorter leases are renewed to preserve the value of the Chef & Brewer chain.

British Land may seek to renegotiate the leases with S&N and obtain regular minimum rental uplifts in exchange for lease extensions. This would serve to improve the yield further. Guaranteed rental uplifts proved a feature of British Land's innovative sale and leaseback deals with Tesco and Sainsbury in 1990.

Nick Leslau, chief executive of Burford, which made an offer for the pub portfolio, said: "It's not about bricks and mortar. It's a corporate deal."

GrandMet and Fosters, which owns Courage, refinanced the joint venture in November with a conversion of loans to shares and the injection of £56 million of new equity. Innentrepreneur recently sold 1,750 pubs to Phoenix Inns for £254 million. This deal would leave it with 4,300 pubs financed by an £800 million bank facility.

Row looming over how jobless are tallied

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR



Oppenheim: talks 'helpful'

THE Government faces a row over its monthly unemployment figures as a result of an independent inquiry that is expected to recommend that ministers agree to a new way of measuring the number of people out of work.

The findings of the inquiry by the Royal Statistical Society, the premier independent authority on the quality of statistical work, are likely to prove embarrassing for ministers and will, inevitably, be seized on by Opposition leaders.

An outline of the preliminary findings of the year-long examination of the politically sensitive unemployment figures has been presented to

ministers, ahead of publication. This follows a recent acknowledgement by Bill McLennan, head of the Government's statistical service, that the unemployment figures carry little, if any, public credibility.

The RSS inquiry, set up after John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader and former employment spokesman, clashed with the Government last year, is expected to recommend that the key measure of unemployment should be based on a monthly version of the Government's quarterly *Labour Force Survey* (LFS) instead of the regular monthly count of those out of work and claiming benefit.

The LFS conforms with internationally recognised standards of a sample of 60,000 households, which yields

details of unemployment, employment and a range of other economic statistics.

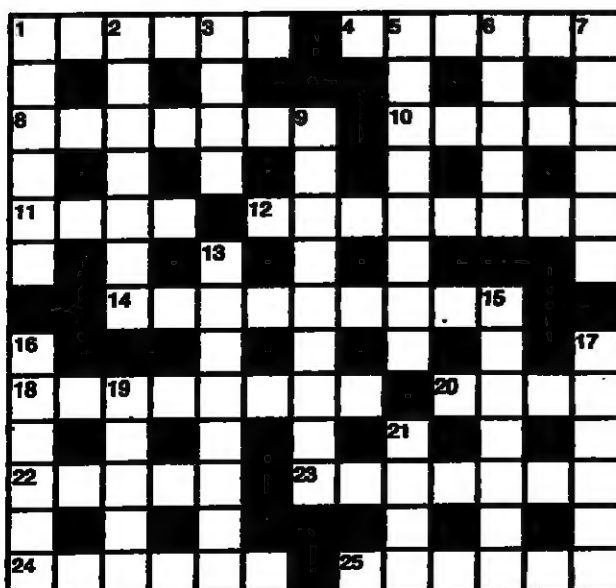
The inquiry is understood to strongly reject the claimant count as a measure of the true level of unemployment. In particular, it is expected to argue that the claimant count will be further distorted by this year's changes in invalidity benefit and next year's introduction of the Jobseekers' Allowance (JSA) as the key unemployment benefit.

It is expected that the report will urge the Government to take the opportunity of the introduction of JSA to use the claimant count as a mere financial measure of benefits paid out and to fund a monthly *Labour Force Survey*. The RSS is expected to argue

that in the absence of a monthly claimant count, policymakers would be satisfied with a quarterly measure of unemployment based on the LFS. If, however, a monthly figure is required, the survey-based approach should be used.

RSS leaders presented their preliminary findings to ministers and Labour leaders last week and requested responses. The Department of Employment said it could not comment on a private meeting, but Philip Oppenheim, Employment Minister, said the talks were helpful and interesting.

Labour suggested the claimant count should be taken over by the Department of Social Security and a new monthly LFS should be overseen by the Central Statistical Office.



EXCLUSIVE FROM TIMES BOOKS: The Times Guides: English Style and Usage (HB) £8.99. International Finance, Japan, Nations of the World, Middle East, Good University Guide 1994-5, Single European Market £9.99 each. Peoples of Europe (HB) £16.99. European Parliament - June 1994 (HB) £26. NEW The Times Guide to the New British State £17.99. The Times Map: The World (Wall Map laminated) 62"x40" £15.99, (folded) 48"x30" £5.99. Miscellaneous: The Times Night Sky 1995 £4.50. The Times 1000 1995 (HB) £33. The Times Concise Atlas of the Bible (HB) £13.99 (reduced from £15.99). The Sunday Times Book of Answers £4.50. Book of Brainiacs £5.99. Prices include P&P (UK). Send cheques with order payable to Alcan Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW. Return del. Tel. 0181 852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 388

ACROSS

- 1 Short sleep (6)
- 4 Vegetable: old watch (6)
- 8 Pretend; decipher (4,3)
- 10 Small flock of game-birds (5)
- 11 Entranceway, means of access (4)
- 12 Short publication (8)
- 14 So as to make an impression (3,6)
- 18 With burning zeal (8)
- 20 Stone particles: strength of character (4)
- 22 Object fussily (5)
- 23 Outer end of mast-crossing spar (4-3)
- 24 Whole (6)
- 25 Lawn, real, table game (6)

DOWN

- 1 Humorous play (6)
- 2 Mimic; leave the ground (4,3)
- 3 County: Shakespeare's home river (4)
- 5 Not selected for country (8)
- 6 Central point: an orange (5)
- 7 Mexican cactus, mesquite source (6)
- 9 In weeping manner (9)
- 13 Composed of small hard particles (8)
- 15 Ground (militarily) (7)
- 16 Socially awkward (6)
- 17 Defeats (with question); close of (cricket) play (6)
- 19 Displaced turf (5)
- 21 A Great Lake (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 387

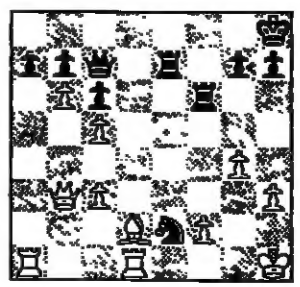
- ACROSS: 1 Sigma 5 Gore 8 File 9 Enfilade 10 Skittish
11 Moot 12 Pester 14 Ethics 16 Flue 18 Testator 20 Love-lorn 21 Prim 22 Lens 23 Emerge
DOWN: 2 Twinkle 3 Greet 4 Amelioration 5 Galumph
6 Rodeo 7 Of the essence 13 Theatres 15 Cooking
17 Loose 19 Ample

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from a game I played recently in a simultaneous display, where I played games against 25 different opponents at the same time. Black has a fine attack, but is hamstrung by the threat to his queen. How does he overcome this difficulty with a winning combination?

Solution, page 35
Raymond Keene, page 8



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SILVICIDE

- a. Killing trees
- b. A silver compound
- c. A cut of beef

TEART

- a. Torn in Scotland
- b. A cloth bottle-stopper
- c. Sour grass

TRONC

- a. A French xylophone
- b. A tip box
- c. Telephone answering service

SHAWMIST

- a. One who plays the shawn
- b. A malt whisky
- c. Freezing fog

Answers on page 35

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